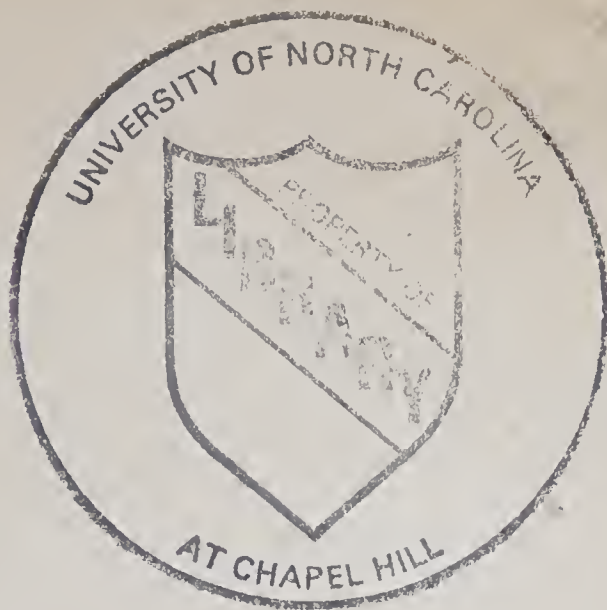


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# IS THE KAISER INSANE?

A STUDY OF THE GREAT OUTLAW

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# IS THE KAISER INSANE?

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A STUDY OF THE GREAT OUTLAW

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BY  
ARNOLD WHITE

London  
C. Arthur Pearson Ltd.  
Henrietta Street W.C.

1915





## PREFACE

THE object of this book is to show that Kaiser Wilhelm being of unsound mind is therefore not fit to be trusted with power. If this point is established, it follows that no man living should ever again be entrusted with powers of life and death over masses of mankind unless periodically examined by a panel of impartial expert alienists. Whatever system of government may obtain in the British Empire after the war, the balance of forces should be such as to prevent the absolute domination of any individual, any class, any creed or any privileged caste.

On the personality of the German Emperor I have dwelt at length. The unsettling effect of great power, an inflamed passion for notoriety, inveterate garrulity and the degenerate's cunning are the marks of an unbalanced mind. The Emperor Wilhelm's belief that he is partner with "My old Ally, God," coupled with his taste for omniscience and his claim to omnipotence, convinced me in 1902 that His Majesty was then not wholly in his right mind.

The German Emperor's message to President

Kruger on January 3rd, 1896, the foul insults of the German press to Queen Victoria and to King Edward sustained for upwards of fourteen years with Kaiser Wilhelm's consent, the preamble to the German Navy Act of the year 1900, and the small bunker space in the design of the German battle-ships, convinced me by 1901 that the Prussians intended to attack England.

In the spring of 1902 I sought, accordingly, an audience of the Emperor Wilhelm. It is always well to seek the topmost man when you want facts. Almost every one of my acquaintance who had converse with His Majesty had told me of the irresistible fascination of the Kaiser's personality. He was alleged to possess hypnotic power not only over Germans, but over Englishwomen and Englishmen. I had heard the same thing about Mr. Gladstone, but when I met Mr. Gladstone I was insensitive to the alleged magnetic force of the man of whom I had heard so much.

Most of the "great" men that I have met in the course of a long lifetime were notorious men, but they were little men all the same. The greatest men I have known are shy, mute and glorious. The qualities of silence, composure, reserve, tenderness and strength are as a rule inconsistent with success in the arena of public life. Accordingly I steeled myself against hypnotisation by the German Emperor. I attempted to judge his character and his

personality as though I were dead. From the pains that he took to convince me of his friendship for England and his personal regard for myself (a middle-class man then without political or social influence) I was convinced that the Emperor meant mischief to my country.

Prussia invariably acts on the principle of making war pay, and never starting a war until Prussian success is certain. Denmark, Austria and France in turn were successfully struck down. The time was propitious in 1902 for the preparation of a successful war against England, a country believed by Prussia to be decadent, corrupt and impotent.

During the twelve years that have elapsed since my visit to Potsdam I have endeavoured to convince my fellow-countrymen at home and overseas that only eternal vigilance, a strong navy and an efficient army could preserve the peace.

In 1870 a great Frenchman, M. Prévost-Paradol, destroyed himself because he could not avert the war with Germany which he had seen to be inevitable. War with Germany was never inevitable had England only listened to reason and had the German Empire been ruled by a man of sound mind. The absence of common sense, the avidity with which the German General Staff have believed what they wanted to believe about England's decadence, the incompetence and inaccuracy of German diplomacy and the sustained refusal of our Foreign



Office to tell France whether we would or we would not support her—these are the things that made conflict inevitable.

I wish to thank Dr. Agnes Savill, M.D., Mrs. Elizabeth Sloan Chessser, M.B., and Sir George Makgill, Bart., together with other notables who prefer that their names should not be mentioned, for their aid and advice.

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# IS THE KAISER INSANE?

## CHAPTER I

### A PERSONAL IMPRESSION

FROM the time that I first saw Kaiser Wilhelm at Potsdam I have made a study of his personality. Convinced, since June, 1902, that His Majesty has been the deadly, relentless, subtle, and implacable enemy of England, it is not my intention to make more of my interview with the Kaiser than the facts warrant. I prefer to print the impression made on my mind at the time as recorded in a private letter to a friend. In some points I was mistaken, but it is better to set forth the truth about the Kaiser as it came to me twelve years ago than to embroider the narrative with subsequent recollections of what happened. If this little book has value it arises only from the intention to find the truth and tell it.

*The following is an extract from a letter I wrote to a friend after seeing the Kaiser at Potsdam.*

HOTEL GERMANIA, KIEL,  
5 June, 1902.

When I reached Berlin I found from our Embassy that the interview had been the subject of

correspondence with the Foreign Office, and that the latter did not favour it. I was not accordingly surprised to find the Marine Minister, von Tirpitz, on his arrival from Düsseldorf yesterday, after a hot night journey, anxious to postpone the interview. In fact, I was asked to return during the Kiel week, when I was told His Majesty would gladly receive me.

As I had travelled so far it seemed very fair that His Majesty should decide whether or not he should see me, and accordingly I persuaded von Tirpitz to telephone to Potsdam, in spite of the fact that he—the Minister—had said the Kaiser was not there. The answer came back sharp and short that I was to come to Potsdam at 6.30 p.m., and that von Tirpitz was to come too.

This made von Tirpitz cross, as he had arrears of work. However, we met at the station, and had a frank talk on the way down to Wildpark.

He told me that the Kaiser would see me for five or ten minutes, and that then I was to go. As a matter of fact the Kaiser talked on end for one hour and thirty-five minutes by Shrewsbury clock, and von Tirpitz had to walk up and down the whole time. As we came away he said grimly : “ I hope you are satisfied now ! ”

If a German writer had taken Lord Selborne from his work to Windsor, and had kept him pacing up and down for one hour and thirty-five minutes, he (Lord Selborne) would have been savage.

Now for the Kaiser. After waiting two minutes in the room in which the Kaiser Friedrich died, von Tirpitz, Captain von Usedom (who was Sir M. Seymour's German A.D.C. in China), and I were called on to the terrace.

The interview was in the open air, and walking the whole time.

As His Majesty gave me his signed photo at the end I suppose he was not displeased. Certainly we had plain words.

He began by saying pleasant things, evidently from a dossier. So I came to the point at once, thanking him for leave to examine his Navy—an act of grace the more remarkable as some of us plain middle-class folk were puzzled to decide whether he was an enemy or a friend of England—whether he was a twentieth-century Buonaparte who acted but did not talk, or the Queen's grandson.

Then he stopped and exploded—there is no other word. "A friend of England?" he shouted. "A Napoleon? Listen." Then for many minutes he recounted things which he had done.

"You think," he said, "you wrote the first 'Message from the Mediterranean.' I," he said, "wrote the first, in 1889"—and then went into detail how when visiting Sir A. Hoskins, then our Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, he had drawn up an indictment of our neglect—had written to Lord Salisbury, who answered him with the quotation from Hamlet—"O cursed spite," etc.



“It is like stabbing a fog,” he said, “to try and make an impression on Lord Salisbury. I have found great comfort and help in my historical studies, but I have never met any instance in history or out of it of an Empire so great, of raw material so vast, being entrusted to Ministers so incapable.” Then he went on to the grievance he felt at English hostility after all he had done. “For example,” he said, “on your three disasters in December, 1899, I sat down and wrote to Grandmamma, and told her what was wanted to make success. This plan of mine was carried out by Lord Roberts a quarter of a year later. *I saved South Africa for you.*”

“What have I got? Abuse.” Then he went on to the origin of the Jameson-Kruger telegram, which he said was the personal result of being nettled at three years’ defamation in our music-halls and newspapers, and at the dogged refusal of Lord Salisbury to let him have coaling stations.

Then I said: “What about Heligoland? Your Majesty got that trifle for nothing.”

“Nothing!” he roared. “Is Zanzibar nothing? Is Mombasa nothing?”

“But,” I said, “neither was German. You gave ‘something that did not belong to you, for something that did belong to us.’”

“Ho, ho!” he said; “I do not agree.”

Then he went on to say how he had foreseen the Shipping Combine, and had warned Lord Salisbury “at Grandmamma’s funeral,” and again later

“through Sir Frank (Lascelles). They laughed at me, but I was right.”

“Why,” he said, “if the Berliners knew all I am telling you—of all I have done for England, they would be very angry.”

“They might dethrone you,” I said.

“Ho, ho, they might try”—he called it *terai*—“but they would knock their heads very hard.”

Here he laughed a hard steely laugh, and showed his teeth.

As we spoke, I could not help seeing the little lines of ants that crawled from the bedding against the wall, across our path. He crushed two or three without knowing it, again and again, almost at every step.

Then he got on to the subject of the relations of the two countries. “You sympathised with Denmark in 1864. We sympathised with the Boers in 1899. But I am no fool. I know that England crushed is a bad thing for Germany. Therefore with my consent England shall not be crushed. If England collapses because her rulers are silly or rotten—then—what can I do? I have five times come to your help—five times—and your papers speak of me as the enemy. I have a hard job. For hundreds of miles one of my frontiers has not even a wire fence. This in the richest corn region of Germany. In a night, all this may be devastated. I must be cautious and keep friends with *all*—with all, mark you. But I am friends, true friends, with England, if only she will let me.”

Then I quoted *Simplicissimus*, *Ulk*, *Kladderadatsch*, etc., also the spittoon with Chamberlain's portrait at the bottom, sold in the streets in Berlin.

He denied the latter.

I rejoined: "I have one—sent to Berlin for it; it was bought in the streets, by a man who is a soldier of your own Guards."

Then he: "That is bad—but don't you forget that for three years I was ridiculed and abused by the Press."

*The Press.* He spoke most bitterly of J. G. Bennett, who, he said, was trying to bring on a war between England and Germany. "He has plenty of money and uses it because he hates both Germany and England."

Of the *Times*, he said the Jews, Rothschild, and J. G. Bennett were bent on malignantly misrepresenting his real intentions.

Of the *Standard* he spoke most bitterly.

Of Lord Salisbury he said: "He is a jelly, a rice pudding."

Of Chamberlain he would not speak beyond saying that he met him several times.

*The Army.* The militia should be made into a separate force under its own institutions. He had caused a plan to be prepared by the General Staff, which he had sent to the King.

*Ireland* would only be regenerated by the vigorous cultivation of potatoes not for food, but for spirit fuel, which should be used in the Fleet. This, he said, is the key to Irish difficulties.



*The Navy.* Of this he spoke at great length, but as I shall publish much of this sooner or later, you will not care to hear now what he said.

*English visitors.* He complained that Englishmen visited the Rhine and drank beer; Dresden, and drank beer; Munich, and drank beer—but that no one came to Berlin.

He shouted: “Not one English officer ever comes to the manœuvres—not one. And how much they might learn!”

He authorised me to say or write anything that would make the truth known about his real regard for England—not apparently because he loves us, but because England, intact, is essential to German existence.

Of the King he spoke with great frankness and esteem.

When I said: “We are governed by old men,” he stopped me and said: “What was my grandfather?”

I said he had been trained for ruling; our King had been denied even the dispatches until 1891.

He said: “The King is so quick to understand.”

I told him how my memorandum on the Navy was given to the King that he might read it in private. He bent double with laughter, and said Linley Sambourne must do this, “The Navy saved”—then followed a coarse joke.

He asked what was thought of him in England.

I said I was a plain middle-class man, and could

not speak for the Services or Society, but that I thought the good women of the middling classes were "solid" for him because he was believed to be an example of pure life and home ties. I begged him to appeal to that element in our national life, and he would not appeal in vain.

He spoke of *Smart Society* at length, and said it spelled ruin, unless checked.

*Daily Mail*. He thought the *Daily Mail* was owned by Lord Burnham, and when I told him that he had nothing to do with it, he brightened up.

Of the *Jews* he spoke bitterly—said that they were the enemies. He would not allow my old friend, Ferdinand Rothschild, to be presented to him at Osborne.

There are several other points I must mention, notably the marked need for more knowledge of each other by both nations ; the Shipping Trust, and our blindness ; his affectionate references to "Grandmamma" ; his pride in being a British Admiral—a position he takes *au sérieux* ; his reference to his grandfather—as an old man who knew how to govern. Also his contempt for the German Press ; his marvel that the English Government yielded so much to the English Press.

I reminded him that he was within the Succession to our Throne. He smiled, and began to speak of what he would do as King of England—when von Tirpitz intervened for the first and only time.

My impression on the whole is that he is neurotic, with a diseased taste for relieving the Most High of His natural functions of running the Universe. He knows everything and everybody; feels the hardship of his task; craves for sympathy, and feasts on admiration.

His last words were to inquire if he had hypnotised me.

*Extract from my letter to a friend.*

SEEBADE-ANSTALT,  
DUSTERNBROOK, KIEL,  
9 June, 1902.

Prince Henry of Prussia sent for me to the "Helm" to-day, had a long talk, and commanded me to lunch at the Castle. So I had to break my fast and go. I am just awaiting a boat to take me off to the *Kaiser Wilhelm*. I shall be home Thursday (D.V.).

Prince Henry powerfully impressed me. I was with him from 11.30 until 3 p.m. The Kaiser had evidently told him of our talk, and told him to pump me about political opinion in England.

I said I was out of politics, and dwelt on the unanimity of British feeling, the importance of the Irish Celts, pro-Boers, and cranks.

He repeated what the Kaiser said about the Press. They are evidently keen for a better understanding now they see the game is up in South Africa—so far as they are concerned.



Prince Henry was very explicit about the ill-feeling between the Press of the two countries, and, though not his big brother's equal, he impressed me as a real, sincere, and good man.

No Britisher ought to "slop over" about either of them, but they are *men* and no mistake.

. . . . .

I see the boat coming, so must close.

There will be a bit of a stir about the "Appeal from Potsdam" and the "Call from Kiel." Between them I hope the bluejacket will get his rations.

## CHAPTER II

### INSANITY OR GENIUS?

IS HE MAD ?

SAYINGS of the Emperor Wilhelm :—

“The Almighty will stand by Wilhelm.”

“Remember that you are the chosen people. The spirit of the Lord has descended on me because I am the German Emperor.”

“I am the instrument of the Most High. I am His sword, His representative.”

“Woe and death to those who resist my will ! Woe and death to those who do not believe in my mission ! Woe and death to cowards ! ”

“Perish all enemies of the German people ! God requires their destruction, God who through my mouth commands you to execute my will.”

The man who spake thus is brain-tainted by three strains of insanity. His family history is bad. The following is the family tree of the German House and of the Russian House. The insanity of George III was of a different kind. Imbecility, not mania, affected Farmer George. The English Royal Family have a good family history—free from

## GERMAN HOUSE

● ALBERT FREDERICK  
Hohenzollern, 1550-1600. Insane

● FREDERICK I. 1701-13

● FREDERICK WILLIAM I. 1713-40  
Insane, homicidal, and dangerous

FREDERICK II. 1740-86

The Great

AUGUSTUS WILLIAM

● FREDERICK WILLIAM II. 1786-97  
Degenerate (sexual and cruel)

● FREDERICK WILLIAM III. 1797-1840  
Mentally deficient

● FREDERICK WILLIAM IV. 1840-61.  
Insane. Childless

WILLIAM I. 1861-88  
Married, normal

FREDERICK III. 1888

● KAISER WILHELM II  
Homicidal and vain

● CROWN PRINCE  
Degenerate, cruel and flighty

## RUSSIAN HOUSE

● IVAN IV. 1533  
Homicidal maniac

● CZAR PAUL I. 1754-1801  
Insane, cruel

Daughter

AUGUSTA = WILLIAM I  
Very vain of Prussia

WILLIAM (died 1846)

MARIE = MAXIMILIAN II  
King of Bavaria

1846-64

● LUDWIG II ● OTTO  
Insane and  
suicidal (?)

● Indicates the family taint of insanity.



brain storms, cataclysms and destructive megalomania.

### GERMAN HOUSE

Albert Frederick (Hohenzollern), 1550–1600.  
Insane.

Frederick I (Hohenzollern), 1657–1713. Reigned 1701–13. First King of Prussia. In consequence of a fall from the arms of his nurse his spine was so seriously injured that he was deformed for life. He had a strong love of pomp and show. Married his second cousin, daughter of the great Duchess of Brunswick.

Frederick William I (1688–1770). Reigned 1713–40. King of Prussia. Son of Frederick I by his second marriage.

In nearly every respect he was the opposite of his father, having frugal, simple tastes, a passionate temper, and a determined will. He despised many things which the modern world holds in high esteem, and was often coarse, violent, and fond of hideous practical jokes.

He it was who scoured all the countries of Europe to secure the tallest men to add to his giant Potsdam Guard. Avaricious to an extreme, he cared only for saving money and forming and drilling an army : and although, as Macaulay says, “ such eccentricities were never seen outside of a madhouse,” he nevertheless left the country in a stronger condition than he found it,

Frederick II (1712-86). Reigned 1740-86. King of Prussia, was the son of Frederick William I, and is usually known as Frederick the Great.

Augustus William. Brother of Frederick the Great and father of Frederick William II.

Frederick William II (1744-97). Reigned 1786-97. King of Prussia, nephew of Frederick the Great, his father, Augustus William, the second son of Frederick William I, having died in 1757. He was of an easy-going nature, fond of pleasure, and without the capacity for hard work. He was a notorious bigamist and debt contractor. The size and population of Prussia were largely increased under Frederick William II ; but, except in the case of Baireuth and Anspach, he attained his aims by means which the more intelligent class of his subjects did not approve, and by his vacillating policy he greatly lowered the state in the esteem of the world. Degenerate (sexual and cruel).

Frederick William III (1770-1840). Reigned 1797-1840. King of Prussia, eldest son of Frederick William II. Mentally deficient. He married Queen Louise, a princess of Strelitz, who died in 1810.

Frederick William IV (1794-1861). Reigned 1840-61. King of Prussia, son of Frederick William III. Paralysed and mind clouded. Childless. Duties of government undertaken by his brother William, who on October 7th, 1858, was formally recognised as regent.

A daughter of his brother William (died 1846), Princess Marie, married Maximilian II, King of Bavaria. Queen Marie (died 1889) had two sons—Ludwig II, King of Bavaria, who died insane in 1886, and the present King Otto of Bavaria, who is also insane. Frederick William IV was succeeded by his brother.

WILLIAM I, King, 1861–88. Became German Emperor in 1871. The Queen and Empress of William I was Augusta, Princess of Sachsen-Weimar and a granddaughter (on her mother's side) of Czar Paul I, who died insane. William I had a daughter, Louise, now Grand Duchess of Baden, and was succeeded by his son.

FREDERICK III, March-June, 1888. The Empress and Queen, styled Empress Frederick, was the eldest daughter of Queen Victoria of England, and was born in 1840. Succeeded by :

WILLIAM II, born 1859, Emperor and King since June, 1888. Homicidal and vain.

CROWN PRINCE. A degenerate—cruel, flighty, vain, and impetuous.

#### RUSSIAN HOUSE

Ivan IV, surnamed the Terrible, the first Czar of Russia, reigned from 1533–84. This monarch expired in 1584, from grief for his son, whom he had killed in a fit of passion three years before.



Czar Paul I (1754–1801), Emperor of Russia, son of Peter III and of Catherine. The solution of the incongruities of the characters of Paul seems to lie in the fact that he was more or less insane. Hence his outbursts of cruelty.

Augusta, granddaughter of Czar Paul I by daughter of Paul I. Married to William I of Germany. Very vain.

Wise old Asia has always looked on lunatics with wonder, reverence, and compassion. The mentally afflicted, in the Asiatic view, are the favoured of whatever gods there be. To rail at the insane, whether tramp or Kaiser, is not English. Believing that the Kaiser for more than a decade has passed across the median line that separates sanity from insanity, his personality will be discussed by me with the moderation due to an Emperor whom I believe to be of diseased mind. Doctors differ about the insanity of the Kaiser, but the balance of medical evidence in my possession favours the theory that he is a paranoiac, that is, a person who suffers from delusional insanity with a tendency to hallucinations.

The incipient signs of insanity are well known ; colossal egotism, domination by obsession, cunning and insensitiveness. Nothing is more remarkable in the characters of Nelson, Sir John Jellicoe, Sir John French, Lord Fisher, and Earl Roberts than their tenderness. Contrary to the opinions that emerged from Nietzsche's padded room (which

seem temporarily to have infected and poisoned all Germany), fraud and force are not effective methods for securing the mastery of the world. Strange though it may seem to German Kultur, right thinking is necessary to win universal domination. As our French friends happily put the case : "Nobody has the wisdom of Monsieur Tout le monde."

Thoughts accompany a man by day and by night—unless he is a dreamless sleeper—throughout the whole of his life. When controlled, thoughts minimise the ills of life and greatly increase its happiness. This is as true of a tinker as of an "All Highest" monarch who has inflated himself with the idea that he was born to rule the planet. When thoughts are employed wisely power follows in their train. In the sane person thoughts are guests to be entertained—to be sent away at the will of their host. Alienists of high standing, Dr. Bernard Hollander for instance, point out that in the insane, thoughts are intruders who have captured the sanctuary of the mind, cannot be expelled and ride their victim down a steep place violently into the sea of death.

In addition to colossal vanity, cunning and insensitiveness Kaiser Wilhelm is dominated by an obsessive idea. Sprung from the tainted stock of the Hohenzollerns his medical history suggests that supreme power, in the interests of mankind, can never again be placed in the hands of an individual who, from his family history, may be a dangerous lunatic.



If Kaiser Wilhelm were a man of genius he might have exercised a powerful influence on the world, and have advanced Germany's position as a world-power without plunging the planet into infernal fires. Genius is no monopoly. We do not understand why a small number of individuals rise rapidly from the ranks and reach great eminence. Between genius and insanity some connection has always existed. Shakespeare, who knew everything, refers to it. Aristotle remarked on the morbidity of the minds of eminent men. Plato analysed the spiritual exaltation which is the gift of the gods. Pascal declared that genius was the neighbour of madness. Lamartine wrote of the mental malady, "qu'on appelle génie." An illustrious predecessor of mine who once wrote the "Handbook" in the "Referee," J. F. Nisbet, in his *Insanity of Genius*, described the general inequality of human faculty, physiologically considered. This book is a mine of interest and learning, and is far too little known.

Nobody expects a dramatist like Rostand or Ibsen to arise among the Kaffirs. Nobody expects a Beethoven or a Chopin to be discovered in the Kalahari Desert, but the loneliness of genius when genius exists could not be greater in any human society than if a Central Asian Beethoven were caravanning in the Kalahari or if an aboriginal Rostand were discovered mute and inglorious among the coastal tribes of the northern territory of Australia.



Your great man is a troublesome person. The more you examine him the more you discover that he is little in little things and great in some great thing. As a rule the field guns of his activities are effective beyond the range or the ken of his contemporaries. Your great man receives his accolade from posterity. Too long have we celebrated the centenaries of nobodies and beflagged the streets on anniversaries of nothing. Can anybody imagine one hundred years hence a sane world celebrating the anniversary of the birth or death of the Emperor Wilhelm ?

Since genius is a manifestation of nerve energy, and nerve energy is determined by physical organisation, over which nobody has any control, the Emperor Wilhelm's place under the Darwinian law is an interesting study.

Every sheep even in the largest Australian flocks can be distinguished by his shepherd. Every Member of the British Parliament in the largest political party can be distinguished by the Speaker. Every criminal, whether a tramp or an Emperor, can be distinguished by stigmata that range from eccentricity to madness. Paralysis, cancer, diabetes, prolonged birth pains produce purposeless and irregular aims and satisfy no beneficial desire.

The official announcement that the Emperor Wilhelm II of Prussia was prepared to lose 350,000 men in hacking his way through to Calais may or may not be a pronouncement of genius. The time will come when the 1,600,000,000 inhabitants of

the planet will ask themselves what the Emperor Wilhelm's business was in Calais and what benefit would accrue to the white, yellow, brown, or black inhabitants of this earth by his reaching Calais after an effusion of blood the like of which the world has never seen. Public opinion will then decide, unless human nature is unteachable, that never again shall any man or any set of men, whatever their genius or whatever their state of mind or body, be invested with the power to inflict such misery and desolation upon mankind. That is the lesson we have to learn from this war.

A genius may be a good genius or a bad genius ; a good spirit or possess the soul of a devil ; but whatever his capacity the control of 6,000,000 soldiers and the use of Krupp's works—or for that matter of any private manufactory of death-dealing machines where potential slaughter is the avenue to dividends, and profits are divided punctually every half-year—shall never happen again on this earth.

George Henry Lewes expressed his conviction that nothing was less like genius than insanity.

The only hypothesis that accounts for the German Emperor's actions is that he is a paranoiac. He is a pest, a disease, and probably is the landmark that will separate the modern world from the centuries when men believed that the affairs of Government did not concern them, and that they were too lowly to presume to arrange the ordering of their own affairs. The time has come for ten nations to

decide that the Kaiser Wilhelm is a disease ; that the Palace of Peace at the Hague, to be of any use, must be provided with a police by land and sea and that the happenings of 1914 shall happen—Never Again.

The following opinion from a well-known British alienist (M.D.) was written after an inquiry from me as to whether the German Emperor could be certified as insane by a competent physician. The writer has had exceptional opportunities for the collection of evidence on the subject. As honorary physician to a French base hospital during the war he has had hundreds of German soldiers under treatment. The physician's opinion was written after this book was completed, but it confirms the views expressed in this work, i.e. that the Emperor William is deranged in mind and that no other hypothesis explains his acts during the last twelve years which have culminated in the greatest world war of this or any other age.

#### AN ALIENIST'S OPINION

“To certify the Kaiser as a person of unsound mind according to English custom entails filling up a very long-winded certificate. Many of the details would not apply here—for instance, a form has to be signed by the person who would receive his body in case of death. I will therefore follow the lines of our certification which chiefly includes facts observed by the medical man certifying and



facts given by friends or others. I will then offer some details as to the form of insanity.

I have received from a number of German prisoners sufficient evidence that this war is being forcibly directed by a person of unsound mind. Most of the prisoners were dangerously wounded and many died. The questions they ask are : ' What is the sense of this war ? ' ' What useful object has it in view ? ' They say there is no gain to those who lay down their lives nor will there be any gain to their country, for now that they get true news they say that Germany is ruined. As to the personal hate which unfortunately they still cling to they consistently observe that it is wiser for them to exercise more control, and they are agreeably surprised that we are not nearly so bad as we are depicted in Germany.

I hear from these men that, under the Kaiser's orders, if they hesitated they were to be shot. From French soldiers I gathered actual incidents of German officers shooting their own soldiers.

Evidently the Kaiser is a dangerous man who ought to be kept under medical observation, for he evinces homicidal tendencies.

From personal observation I would describe the Kaiser as a degenerate. He is of short stature—about five feet five inches. He wears a restless, nervous, somewhat fierce countenance, and constantly glares sideways at perfectly harmless individuals with a suspicious and sometimes with a menacing expression. At other times his joviality



is more like a boy in his early teens. As a boy in his teens he seemed fairly normal, but his brain has not developed as years advanced, consequently his impulses are beyond the control which should come with age and experience.

He suffers from infantile paralysis of the left arm which may be the result of a meningitis caused by organisms—although some doctors say that the head was injured at birth, forceps being necessary. He has a discharge from one ear which seems to keep up a chronic infective meningitis. In cases of this kind the brain cells are frequently damaged, producing the most uncertain results.

It is reported that the Kaiser suffers from epilepsy. One fit is said to have occurred in June, 1892, whilst on a visit to Count Dohna at Pröckelwitz. This was caused by fear from the coach horses bolting. On another occasion in midsummer, 1891, at the Neues Palais he was found on the floor in his dressing-room in an epileptic fit by a chambermaid Amalie. The same thing occurred at the Berlin Schloss.<sup>1</sup>

At school and college he never rose high in class. He was at most satisfactory. Those who come in contact with him say he never reads, and that his intellectual qualities are poor.

The Kaiser suffers from various obsessions, *idées fixes*, which rob him not only of reason but of control. Thus he imagines he holds a commission

<sup>1</sup> See *The Secret History of the Court of Berlin*. (John Long, Ltd.)

from God ; that he is God's direct emissary, and it is not improbable that at times he thinks himself God. This is quite a common delusion in every asylum. This delusion alone would entitle him to medical care in an institution. On one occasion the Kaiser dedicated a number of Bibles to the New Berlin garrison church. In each he wrote :

‘I will walk among you and will be your God, and ye shall be my people.’

‘Ye shall walk in all the ways which I have commanded you.’

‘Without me ye can do nothing.’

He signed each sentence ‘Wilhelm Imperator Rex.’

This obsession results in intense vanity as to his power, and as a result cruelty develops.

This cruelty is common knowledge—thus the brutal manner in which he insulted his mother after he came on the throne, and forced her to vacate the castle which was her proper home. This is also the act of a moral degenerate.

A dangerous form of the Kaiser's egomania is the number of prosecutions for *lèse-majesté*, which frequently descends to private spite and persecution. This is the act of a morbid degenerate.

The Kaiser in many ways thinks himself above the restrictions of space and time. These instances, of popular knowledge in Germany, are evidences of unsound mind.

Suffering from intense vanity to a morbid degree, the Kaiser thus dresses in ten or twelve different

costumes daily. He imagines himself a composer of music and plays, and insists on taking the principal part in performances. This is an insane act, for a normal mind would inquire as to his competence, whereas the Kaiser is quite unconscious of the ridicule to which he exposes himself.

This form of insanity is called Megalomania—the insanity of Grandeur and Power.

The Kaiser has an intense admiration for Frederick the Great, and imagines that he resembles him in face and figure. This is a delusion. This was carried to such an extreme that Frederick's music and marches for some three years were constantly played at Court, and everybody had to dress in the rococo costume that Frederick loved so well.

The historic 'mailed fist' episode is also an evidence of the megalomania of power.

Those who are constantly associated with the Kaiser say that he takes no interest in anyone but his ego, and that he views society as something not to be reckoned with. He is, in fact, unconscious of the existence of anyone but himself.

Amongst degenerates we find two classes :

(1) Those who are weak and childish, either inoffensive or mischievous and troublesome in small ways.

(2) Those who are governed by cruel instincts, and in some cases thirst for blood. The latter are frequently, as in the Kaiser's case, epileptic.

Kaiser Wilhelm is said to be very hard-hearted. He signs almost every death warrant presented to



him, and rarely considers the petitions presented to him.

He is infatuated with the chase, and sport with him becomes slaughter. He has always been emphatic on military discipline. His army must be ready to die for him, and to slaughter their parents, brothers, and sisters. Cruelty is very infectious, and we see how this principle has been freely extended by the German soldiers to unoffending civilians.

At the same time the Kaiser is said to be unable to stand the slightest pain himself, and becomes completely unnerved in the dentist's chair. Such is a common phenomenon amongst degenerates.

If a diagnosis and opinion were required it would be : The Kaiser is an insane degenerate of homicidal instincts and tendencies, unfit to be at large, and ought to be detained in a criminal lunatic asylum for the rest of his life, for there is no hope of his recovery, partly on account of his very bad pedigree. He is not responsible for the many crimes and cruelties which he has committed.

## CHAPTER III

### THE KAISER'S EGOTISM

“The King holds his power by the grace of God, to whom alone he is responsible. He chooses his own path and only decides his actions from this point of view.”

KAISER WILHELM II.

THE kingly caste is peculiar. The present war has given a blow to the kingly caste that will, let us hope, prove fatal to the institution of absolute monarchy. Princes and Princesses of the Blood differ from other people mainly by the fact that, secretly if not openly, they regard the head of their family as the Lord's Anointed.

Egotism in a King or an Emperor is almost inevitable. To be kicked at school and to be made to feel the superiority of stronger and cleverer lads than oneself is essential to a good education. Some of us learn in early life by hard knocks at school that we are not only not the only pebbles on the beach but that other people are more interesting and more efficient than ourselves. Kings and Queens born in the purple rarely learn these lessons. It is probable that King Edward VII, who derived most of his knowledge from men and not from books, was as near being a sensible man of the

world as any sovereign who has reigned during the last hundred years. But even King Edward, when he came to the Throne, gave the impression to his former intimates that he was of different flesh and blood to the rest of the people. Though a constitutional King he was still in some sense the Lord's Anointed.

General Sir Arthur Ellis told me soon after King Edward's accession to the Throne that being old and weary he asked permission to take a seat as he had been accustomed to do for many years when the King was Prince of Wales. Sir Arthur said, with a wry face : " It was no good. In the Presence we all have to stand now till we drop."

If a *bon garçon* like King Edward was bitten with the idea that a King in some form bears the burden of divinity, is it to be wondered at that the Hohenzollern, a bad son and endowed with a cruel nature, who is cunning and insensitive, should dwell upon the reality of his power over men and women until he becomes like the Roman Emperors, not only neurotic and vain, but mentally unsound ?

The royal caste is distinguished by certain qualities which are the joint effects of heredity and of habit. Royal women, for instance, can stand for hours at a time where the average woman would swoon from fatigue. It was a common taunt of the Princess Clotilde, the wife of " Plon-Plon " the cousin of Napoleon III, that the beautiful Empress Eugénie was unable to stand long enough to fulfil her Imperial duties. Princess Clotilde, being of



the royal caste, had no difficulty in outshining the Emperor's Consort, who had been plain Made-moiselle de Montijo.

Another characteristic of the royal caste is the large appetites of its members. Gargantuan repasts disappear down royal throats with a rapidity and gusto that would rouse the admiration of Captain Dugald Dalgetty. The English custom of five o'clock tea, at more than one Court in Europe, has developed into a new luncheon. To stay hunger between the midday meal and dinner-time chops, steaks, boiled eggs, potted ham, cold meats, savouries, and liqueurs grace the royal sideboard.

Appetite grows by what it feeds on. He who has money wants more money. Then comes a time when money is the master of the man and the victim wants all money. So with power. The exercise of power by an unbalanced brain develops an appetite for power which is no more satiated by conquest than the thirst of a drunkard is quenched by quaffing a tankard of raw and fiery Hamburg spirits.

There was a time when the German Emperor may have been sane, but no one can read the succession of outrageous public exhibitions of his egotism without feeling that never again in the history of the world will power of life and death and of making war or peace be entrusted to a single individual.

Collate the Kaiser's views on peace with his public actions :

“I only wish that European peace lay in my hands. I should certainly take care it should never be disturbed.”

“I lend my hand to any plan that can help to further the great cause of peace.”

“The peace of the world depends upon the maintenance of good relations between Germany and England.”

“The peace of Europe is not in danger : it rests on foundations which are too solid and firm to be easily shaken by the lies and calumnies of mischief makers.”

In swearing in recruits egotism that would be blasphemous in a sane man, in the mouth of the Emperor William is indistinguishable from the ravings of thousands of megalomaniacs immured in asylums. In his speech in August, 1900, when a composite force was sent out to relieve the legations at Peking, the Emperor said :

“The Chinese have trampled on international Law, they have in a manner unheard of in the history of the world hurled foul scorn at the sanctity of the ambassador and at the duties of hospitality. Such conduct is all the more revolting because the crime was committed by a nation which is proud of its immemorial civilisation.”

Except for the fact that the insults inflicted after the war broke out by Germans on the British,

French, and Russian ambassadors in Berlin were not committed by a nation "which is proud of its immemorial civilisation," the Emperor's indictment of the Chinese stands good against himself and his people.

"There is only one master in this country : I am he, and I will not tolerate another."

"There is only one law—my law ; the law which I myself lay down."

"The soldier must not have a will of his own—they must all have only one will, and that will mine."

"I have the firm and unshaken conviction that we have a good conscience, that we seek no quarrels anywhere, and that God will be on our side if ever our peaceful work is interrupted."

The note that distinguishes the egotism of the insane from the egotism of the sane is that your megalomaniac is never in the wrong. He is always infallible. The idea of pity, forgiveness, humility is never to be discovered in the Emperor's utterances. His conception of God is the English conception of the devil. No man with a soldier's heart could have incited his troops to brutality in the following words :

"Wield your weapons to such an effect that for a thousand years no Chinaman shall ever again dare to look askance at a German."



“The foreigner has learnt the consequences of offending the German Emperor and his soldiers ; a severe lesson has been given to the enemy ; and all nations have learnt how German soldiers fight, conquer, and die. All the world respects our system of training and our military service.”

“The Teuton never fights better than when he is called upon to defend himself on all sides. So let our enemies begin. We are ready for them all.”

Germany's ideal is the religion of force, inspired and organised on lines as non-moral as an earthquake. Nevertheless, the history of civilisation is the history of the destruction of the egotist who sought the mastery of the world. By his egotism Kaiser Wilhelm may be undone.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE KAISER'S INSENSITIVENESS

“If I order you to shoot down your parents, brothers and sisters, you are to do so.”—KAISER WILHELM II.

THE Emperor Wilhelm is the growth of heredity. Three strains of insanity concentrate in his person—the Romanoffs, George III, and the Hohenzollerns headed by Frederick William of Prussia. He reflects and embodies the opinions held by the German people for the last fifty years. Not entirely through his own fault, but from the fatal teaching of the German philosophers whom he has favoured and who have mastered his personality, the German Emperor has cultured his head while ignoring his heart. He is insensitive—without heart. Without heart culture the culture of the whole man is impossible. A cultured man is unthinkable unless the friendship of man with man, irrespective of race, irrespective of faith, irrespective of colour is the dominant idea of culture. The German hymn, “Deutschland Über Alles,” is the death sentence to German culture.

Insensibility to the feelings of others and to the perspective of life, together with inability to appreciate humour, mark the Emperor's character. It is

well known that the speeches of Prince Henry of Prussia are dictated by his Imperial brother. For years before the war Prince Henry was the gramophone that vibrated with his master's voice. The note of Prince Henry's speeches reveals the Hohenzollern ament. At Kiel the exordium of one of Prince Henry's speeches began as follows : "Exalted Emperor, Puissant King and Master, Illustrious Brother." The peroration was "Our Sublime, Mighty and Beloved Kaiser, King and Emperor for all times, for ever and ever—hurrah ! hurrah ! hurrah !" This is how the sycophants of Tiberius talked. In 1894 Professor Quidde, of Munich, published his pamphlet, *Caligula : A Study of the Insanity of Cæsarian Power*, which established and set forth a parallel between Kaiser Wilhelm and the successor of Tiberius.

It was the ill-fortune of the Roman Emperors to receive immortality only at the hands of their detractors. It is inconceivable that Nero, Tiberius, Caligula, and the rest of the Imperial line could have been as bad as they were painted, because prolonged orgies and continual prostitution of physical and mental forces by the head of the State would necessarily have prevented the Roman Empire from reaching administrative, legislative, and executive efficiency. The effects of Roman efficiency linger to this day not only among the Latin nations but throughout the world. The effects of German efficiency and Kultur are chiefly remarkable by the quantity of cheap and adulterated goods which the



world has absorbed in time of peace and by the revelation to humanity of the effects of the Teutonic non-moral creed of hatred of all that England stands for.

The insensitiveness of the Kaiser is exhibited in a form indistinguishable from the phenomena of "borderland" insanity. Whenever the brain is affected directly or indirectly and its moral function is hindered, the personality of the affected person is altered. This alteration is sometimes marked by an exaggeration of natural disposition and predilection ; sometimes by a degradation of character.

In the domain of sport, for instance, the killing of many animals is an accepted and natural ambition among healthy-minded men. There comes a point, however, when the killing of beasts and birds degenerates into blood lust. It is difficult to resist the evidence that sport in the unbalanced mind of Kaiser Wilhelm is associated rather with the effusion of the blood of dumb animals than with the healthy English conception of pitting intelligence and human endurance against the sagacity and cunning of predatory animals. It is stated on authority that when the Emperor had killed his fifty-thousandth head of game he said :

"When I think of the number of animals in my forest I feel like Frederick the Great at Kolin when he shouted to his squadrons: 'Dogs, would ye live for ever?' I hope to double and treble my shooting record during the next ten years. If a King cannot go to war he must be content in practising

in the forest. It keeps one in fighting trim anyhow."

Constant references to the shedding of blood, notably the Emperor's oft-repeated injunction to his soldiers to be ready to kill their parents, brothers, and sisters, are closely associated with the blood lust of degenerates described by the German Ebbs Kraft.

Crime is indefinable. Sin and crime run on different lines. Much wrong-doing is not amenable to Statute Law. Some forms of sin are actually protected by legal enactment. The marriage of an old man to a young girl, for example, is not forbidden by law, though such marriage is criminal in its effect on the race. False statements in a company prospectus cunningly drafted by an expert lawyer, so as to keep within the four corners of the common law, deceive duped governesses and clergymen, but they are permitted by the courts so long as the frontiers of the four corners of the law are not crossed. On the other hand, many so-called crimes are artificial and technical crimes, and amount to little more than an invasion of privilege. In the old days a farmer's crops were destroyed by ground game without compensation though the shooting of hares and rabbits by a tenant was a crime against the owner of land.

The insensitiveness of Kaiser Wilhelm, if he is sane, leads him well into the centre of the domain of crime and well into the domain of sin against humanity. If he is insane, as I believe him to be, the system of a military monarchy with a murderous

maniac as the master of many legions is a system that needs a check.

Poaching to a great extent is a technical crime, but when blood-letting and poaching on all men's liberty on a universal scale still leaves an Emperor free to sermonise the crew of the *Hohenzollern* "concerning the necessity of prayer" (on the occasion of the International Expedition to China in 1901), the conclusion is warranted that insensitiveness and insanity are interdependent. The brag, boast, bluster, and bombast with which the world has been afflicted by the German Emperor since the mask was withdrawn by the dispatch of the telegram to Paul Kruger and the insensitiveness of the Emperor have been marked by ever-growing intensity. In private life mental affliction differs no whit from mental affliction in public life. The over-sensitive man becomes a melancholiac ; suspicion becomes a delusion ; irritability grows into uncontrollable violence ; weak volition into obsession ; the garrulous become impossible, monopolising the conversation more completely than usual ; the egotist wallows in megalomania ; the energetic man is noisy and presumptuous, and an upright person betrays exaggerated belief in his virtues and perfections.

But of all the crowning and unanswerable proofs of insanity is the insensitiveness of a ruler who plunges eleven nations of the world into a sea of blood that he may exhibit his affinity with the sacred Persons of the Trinity.



## CHAPTER V

### THE KAISER'S OBSESSIONS

“As I look upon myself as an instrument of the Lord, I am indifferent to the point of view of the present day. I pursue my own way, devoted to the prosperity and pacific development of the country.”—KAISER WILHELM II.

THE family history of the Hohenzollerns, like that of the Romanoffs, is not a happy one. A brief outline of the antecedents and family history of Wilhelm of Hohenzollern has been given in a previous chapter. With so tainted a record it is not surprising that Kaiser Wilhelm is impelled to action, and is beset by persistent ideas and emotions which are inconsistent with normal existence. Imperative ideas or obsessions are thoughts which exist with abnormal intensity.

Lasting obsession by a fixed idea is one of the best known symptoms of mental disease, such as melancholia and paranoia.

When a man or woman of the middle classes becomes hypochondriacal and self-centred, if he or she is highly strung, the manifestations of obsession range from certifiable insanity to eccentricity, irritability, and nervous weakness. In all cases it may

be accepted as fact that when the weakening of mental control leaves an Emperor or a pauper powerless to resist the invasion of certain ideas that dominate them and assert undivided empire over their minds it is unsafe to trust such people with the persons and property of human beings.

Some obsessions are harmless. The late Professor de Morgan, one of the most powerful mathematical minds of the nineteenth century, when taking exercise in London streets was unable to resist the temptation of touching a railing at certain definite intervals. The obsession of Frederick William I on the subject of tall Grenadiers was indicative of his incompetence for the possession of supreme power. The obsession of the desire to kill may take the form of the desire to murder individuals, as in the cases of Jack the Ripper and of Charles Peace. The desire to kill or to steal is neither more nor less a criminal obsession because the madman happens to be an Emperor, who is willing to kill and to wound a million men of his own nation, in order to kill sufficient men of other nations to enable him to annex their territory, to capture their wealth, and to deprive them of liberty to live and to thrive.

Obsessions are always dangerous symptoms in mental phenomena. Some people fear a crowd, others confinement in an inclosed space. Agoraphobia and claustrophobia are none the less evil diseases because the sufferer is a crowned King, an uncrowned Emperor, who cannot control himself

sufficiently to prevent blood-letting on the vastest scale ever known to man.

To understand the extent to which the Emperor Wilhelm suffers from obsessions it is necessary to study his own words. The Emperor claims to be a servant of Christ. What were the principles of Jesus Christ? They were contained in the short Sermon on the Mount, and are concentrated in the tabloids of the Beatitudes. The Emperor has said: "no words have ever been uttered worthy of the words of Christ," and again: "Jerusalem, that city built on a hill, which we see at our feet, vividly calls to our mind that stupendous work of redemption of our Lord and Saviour. It bears witness to us of that common work which, independently of creeds and nationality, unites all Christians in Apostolic Faith."

"Let every man, whatever his position in life, whatever his calling, take care that all who bear the name of the crucified Lord may so walk under the banner of His glorious name that they may triumph over all the powers of darkness that spring from sin and selfishness."

"God liveth as of old. Our great Ally still reigneth, the Holy God who cannot suffer sin and iniquity to triumph."

Hasty writers charge the Emperor Wilhelm with blasphemy. If he is a man of unsound mind the charge is unfair. Among alienists of repute in this country I am aware that opinions differ as to whether the Emperor Wilhelm is of unsound mind.



But it is indisputable that the language of the Emperor Wilhelm concerning Christ, either in a sermon to German sailors in a Norwegian fiord, or in the Christian Church at Jerusalem, is as inconsistent with sanity as the atrocities of Louvain are inconsistent with the service of Christ.

The Emperor Wilhelm is a Lutheran by the constitution of Prussia, and claims to be the voice and the sword of "our old God." He invokes the blessing of the Most High on the destruction of the Temples of the Most High. The Emperor is a Moslem in Turkey, a Roman Catholic in Poland, a Protestant in Prussia. He sees visions of the Holy Virgin, dreams dreams and threatens with the divine displeasure all who disobey him. He claimed to share with the Sultan the spiritual lordship over Islam. The Lutheran Emperor Wilhelm did homage at the shrine of Saladin, "the scourge of the Christians," and he declared at Damascus that he was the friend of the three hundred million Moslems "who owe spiritual allegiance to the Sultan." The Emperor's campaign against England dates from that visit to the Holy Land.

In 1903 the Emperor made a confession of religious faith to his friend Admiral Hollman. The "confession" was published in the *Grinzboten*, a Saxon monthly magazine. The Emperor Wilhelm in this document said that he had not the slightest doubt that God revealed Himself among others in the person of Hammurabi, Charlemagne, Kant, and Kaiser Wilhelm the Great—these he selected and

honoured with His Grace to achieve for their peoples according to His will things noble and imperishable. "How often has not my grandfather declared that he was an instrument of the Lord ? "

Kaiser Wilhelm regards himself, not as the follower but as the successor of the Messiah. In the Emperor's letter to Admiral Hollman he makes the following declaration :

(1) I believe in one God.

(2) We humans need in order to teach Him a Form, especially for our children.

In his own view he is that form. He is the Messiah.

The outstanding fact that appears from the Emperor's own words is that he has a higher opinion of himself and of his position in the world than the world is likely to accord him. His judgment as to his claims to the Messiahship is so unsound as to vitiate his authority on lesser matters.

The Kaiser's second obsession is that the destruction of England is his duty :

"Our German people will be the granite rock on which Almighty God will complete His building of the civilisation of the world."

"You English are mad—mad as March hares. What has come over you that you are so completely given over to suspicions quite unworthy of a great nation ? Falsehood and prevarication are alien to my nature. My actions ought to speak for them-

selves ; but you listen, not to them, but to those who misinterpret and distort them."

"I am a friend of England. The prevailing sentiment among large sections of the middle and lower classes of my own people is not friendly to England. I am, therefore, so to speak, in a minority in my own land ; but it is a minority of the best elements."

"We belong to the same race and the same religion. Those are two points which should be strong enough to maintain friendship and harmony between us."

Since the Stettin announcement that the future of Germany was on the water, and since the Preamble to the German Navy Estimates of 1900, there has been no room for doubt that the destruction of England was the dominating idea in the Emperor Wilhelm's tangled brain. During the fourteen years that have elapsed since the outbreak of the Boer War the Kaiser has been persistently misinformed by his diplomatic agents and by his spies as to the dimensions and the reality of the real England. Newspapers subsidised by German money or swayed by sloppy sentimentality conveyed an erroneous impression of the hardness of the English fibre and of the indelibility of the English type.

He did not laugh at me when I told him that he was not well informed about the real England :



that his espionage system, which was perfect as regards the material strength of England and excellent as regards the intellectual drawbacks and limitations of English life, was ignorant of spiritual England. Spies cannot report on the soul of a nation, when the spies and their employers are the victims of Nietzsche and Treitschke materialism. Therefore the Emperor Wilhelm stumbled in his challenge to the British Empire. He did not understand the Empire he challenged.

The Emperor's third obsession is that he alone counts for anything in his Empire.

I hope to live to see the day when every working man who is skilful and industrious will ride in his motor-car, because release from the burden of armaments will enable him to command the means of locomotion now reserved for the wealthy. In Canada, a nation that has hitherto spent little for naval or military purposes, it is not unusual to see an engine driver leave his engine and get into his motor-car. How many working men or middle-class men in Europe are likely to ride in their own motor-car while a would-be master of the world possesses the physical power to enforce only one law—"my law ; the law which I myself lay down" ? Napoleon was too big a man to make this extravagant claim. Napoleon's mind was more flexible and ranged over wider spheres than the mind of the Emperor Wilhelm, who, being self-centred, is decadent.

The best answer given to the Emperor Wilhelm's claim to be master of the world, master of Germany

and master of everybody except himself, was given by the Duke of Bedford in a simple appeal for recruits for the Bedfordshire Training Depôt which sends men straight to the Front when found fit for foreign service. The Duke said :

“ We are engaged in a war to keep our plighted word, a war to defend the weak against the strong, a war to maintain the liberty and freedom which we have won after centuries of conflict. It is a war for our national independence, for the preservation of our Empire, for our existence as a people. It is a war on which as I believe rests the blessing of the peacemaker, for it is a war against war, a war for peace.

“ By the happy fortune of our island position, the battles are fought on foreign soil. But, nevertheless, every battle is fought to defend your Bedfordshire homes and your Bedfordshire women and children. If we and our Allies are beaten in France and Belgium, it will be our turn next to endure the horrors of Louvain. It is in your cause, as well as their own, that industrious peace-loving Belgium is a solitary and ruined waste. It is for you, as well as for herself, that France has sent her whole manhood to the Front, and with a smaller population than your own has ten men in the field to every one that you have sent.

“ When your Allies have suffered and are suffering so greatly for you, and when your own neighbours and friends are fighting so gallantly on your behalf, you cannot and I know will not hang back. Let

me urge you to join at once, and train in your own country, under officers you know, in order that when you are ready you may play your part abroad as Bedfordshire men by the side of brave comrades in your own County Regiment."

The Kaiser's fourth obsession is that he is the friend of England if only England would believe it. When I saw the German Emperor, powerful newspapers in London were in the habit of submitting German material received from their correspondents abroad to the German Embassy. Some day perhaps the facts will come out about the Germanisation of British public opinion during the last fourteen years. As I have said in the Preface, I do not intend to embroider or to increase the impressions planted in the mind by Kaiser Wilhelm. I may, however, say this, that the interview which was published by the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* on the 28th October, 1908, from Sir Rowland Blennerhasset had been previously given to me. I did not think that the Emperor was the friend of England, and his anxiety to make me think that he was our friend convinced me that such was not the case.

The Kaiser lives and moves under the delusion that he is the Apostle of Peace, that the maintenance of Peace is his greatest ambition in life :

"The German Empire, far from being in danger to other States, will be respected and trusted by the nations, and will remain as heretofore a mainstay of peace."



“If history should mention a German world-power, or a Hohenzollern omnipotency, we do not wish it to be said that it was obtained by the point of the sword, but by the mutual confidence of nations striving towards the same ideal.”

“When I came to the throne I swore that after the heroic times of my grandfather, bayonets and cannon would, so far as lay in my power, be put aside, but that these bayonets would be held sharp and these cannons ready, so that when cultivating our gardens and extending our beautiful houses, we should not be disturbed by envy and jealousy from outside.”

“I dream of an Empire and it is this: The newly born German Empire must possess the confidence of everybody; must be considered everywhere as a quiet, honest, and peaceful neighbour: and if some day in the future a German world-empire is spoken of, it must not be based on the conquests of the sword, but on the reciprocal confidences of nations united for an identical end.”

Further, the Kaiser by his distorted judgment persuades himself and his people that the continent of Europe, and more especially England, is hungering for the opportunity to provoke a conflict and to grab from Germany her Empire. In spite of his denials the spirit of aggression is so strong in him that he credits other powers with the same quality.

He judges others by himself. The following utterances of the War Lord demonstrate this attitude of mind :

“I look upon the peace of the German people as sacred ; but it is our duty to recognise from the signs of the times that we must prepare to defend ourselves from aggression.”

“As Christians it is our duty to accept what Heaven sends us. We hope that peace may be preserved, but if it is not the fault will not be ours.”

“I am determined to keep peace with every one, so far as it lies in my power. My love for the German Army, and the position I occupy in regard to it, will never lead me into the temptation to endanger the benefits which the country derives from peace, provided, of course, that war does not become a necessity forced upon us by an attack upon the Empire, or its allies.”

Turning to the Kaiser's obsession that accuracy and consistency matter not at all where it pleases an Emperor's whim to disregard them, the following sentences provide a striking example :

“The British troops have filled me with the greatest admiration. If the possibility of a volunteer army is ever doubted, I shall be able to give such an army a testimony of efficiency.”

“It is my Royal and Imperial command that you concentrate your energies, for the immediate present, upon one single purpose, and that is, that you address all your skill and all the valour of my soldiers to exterminate first the treacherous English ; walk over French’s contemptible little army.”



## CHAPTER VI

### THE KAISER'S CUNNING

“I am a friend of England.”—KAISER WILHELM II.

THE British dislike wordy men. The man who talks incessantly, is avid for notoriety and suffers from logorrhœa is discredited in the eyes of the British. Silent men are credited with more wisdom than they possess. Incessant talkers are sometimes depreciated beyond their merits. The Kaiser is a great talker. His speeches for fourteen years have made the British public laugh. They are, nevertheless, one source of his power, for he is a born orator.

In his sermons on board ship, in his political discourses, or in his addresses to university students, recruits, scientific congresses, labourers, diplomats, or the mob, he has rarely failed to produce the effect he wished to produce.

The German Kaiser's efficiency is partly due to a power of speech which intoxicates his people like heady wine. Beneath a volubility which amounts in English eyes to a disease akin to logorrhœa, the Emperor has shown cunning that shames the stoat or the fox. He is all things to all men. In the

company of the English in Norwegian fiords he flatters England. In the company of Americans he abuses the English and flatters the Great Republic. With a constant affectation for *bon-homie* he has maintained a deadly purpose. The seizure of the "Bundesrath" by the British Fleet in 1900 gave him the opportunity he desired of rousing the German people into a feverish desire to conquer England, land at Dover, and march on London.

In his effective capture of the London and Provincial Press before war broke out, the Emperor displayed matchless cunning. Having been the recipient of felonious attentions from His Majesty I may be allowed to say that it was the display of his unexplained desire to win my humble support that opened my eyes to the existence of his plot against England.

It may now be remembered that in their expressed desire for unconditional friendship with Germany the British Government paid an indemnity to the German Foreign Office for exercising our immemorial naval right of searching neutral bottoms for contraband of war. The "Bundesrath" and the "Hertzog" were filled to the hatches with contraband of war but our pacific Government cowered under the lash of the German whip across the face of England and surrendered the ancient English right of search at a time when Germany could have been easily defeated at sea.

Count Bülow, the German Chancellor, publicly

stated in the Chamber that it was an insult to the German Army to compare it with the English Army. Thereupon the then British Secretary of State for War accepted, from the Kaiser in his official capacity, the Order of the Red Eagle.

As a middle-class man, without social or political influence, I resented deeply these manifestations of German ill-will and of English slackness.

In 1902 I stated that "If our public affairs continue to be managed as they are managed to-day, war between Germany and England is as certain as to-morrow's dawn. English incapacity is German opportunity."

It never occurred to me that the expansion of Germany and the growth of the German Navy was a whim of the Kaiser or a jingo instinct of the German people. But the British, especially the Nonconformist students of the situation as it existed at the close of the Boer War, never suspected that the German Navy was due to the first law of nature—the instinct of self-preservation.

Germany was already Prussianised, and the Prussians, though unimaginative, are thorough and brave. English lack of imagination is concealed by a sense of humour which deceives the Teuton and has successfully deceived the Kaiser over and over again.

It was under these circumstances that I determined to seek an interview with the German Emperor and so to learn from his own lips, if he would consent to talk, whether he, like Napoleon, hated



England and said so, or whether he secretly hated England and openly announced a passionate affection for England and his English grandmother. All my life I have found the best thing to do is to go to the top when seeking information. I knew it was useless to ask the Foreign Office to arrange an interview. Accordingly I resolved to write to the Emperor and ask him to let me examine the food arrangements for the crews of His Majesty's warships. This excuse for tasting the savour and breathing the atmosphere, mental and spiritual, of the Emperor Wilhelm II was the best pretext I could think of for securing not formal but real contact with him.

Having been recently in the Mediterranean with Mr. Robert Yerburgh, M.P.—the President of the Navy League—when we were the guests of Lord Charles Beresford, I had written an article in Mr. Maxse's *National Review* entitled "A Message from the Mediterranean." This "message," there was reason to believe, had attracted some attention in Germany as well as in England.

I wrote the Emperor asking him, as a British Admiral of the Fleet, to allow me to visit the warships of his fleet at Kiel with the special object of studying the conditions under which food was supplied to his bluejackets. I stated in the letter referred to that I was interested in the British Fleet and knew of no way of getting at the facts except by a direct application to His Imperial Majesty.

Having entertained and having been entertained by Captain Koeper, then the Naval Attaché to the German Embassy (now Admiral Koeper and Admiral Ingenohl's right-hand man), and having had some previous social acquaintance with the then German Ambassador Count Paul Metternich, I communicated to them my desire to examine the messing arrangements of the German Fleet. In a few days I received the following letter from Admiral von Tirpitz :

“ BERLIN, den 23 *April*, 1902.

“ DER STAATSEKRETÄR DES REICHS-MARINE-AMTS.

“ M.A. 411.

“ Das von Ihnen bei Seiner Majestät dem Kaiser und König angebrachte Immediatgesuch vom 7. Februar d. Js. um Erlaubniss zum Besuch deutscher Kriegsschiffe zum Zwecke des Studiums der Mannschaftsverpflegung ist dem unterzeichneten Staatssekretär des Reichs-Marine-Amtes zur Bescheidung zugefertigt worden.

“ Sie erhalten hiervon mit dem Hinzufügen ergebenst Kenntniss, das Ihnen der Besuch der Schiffe des I. Geschwaders zu dem von Ihnen angegebenen Zwecke gestattet wird, und werden ersucht, Sich nach Ihrer Anfunft in Kiel an den Kommandanten S.M.S. ‘ Kaiser Wilhelm II,’ Kapitän zur See Gülich, zu wenden. Am geeignetsten für die Besichtigung

der Schiffe ist die Zeit nach dem 5. Juni d. Js., weil das I. Geschwader alsdann in Kiel liegen wird.

“(Signed) v. TIRPITZ.”

*Translation.*

“BERLIN, *April 23rd*, 1902.

“M.A. 411.

“THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE IMPERIAL  
NAVY OFFICE.

“Your letter of February 7th to His Majesty the Emperor and King applying for permission to visit German men-of-war for the purpose of studying the crews' feeding arrangements has been forwarded for consideration to the undersigned Secretary of the Navy.

“You are herewith informed that permission is given you to visit the ships of the 1st Squadron for the purpose named in your letter, and you are requested to apply to Captain Gulich, commanding S.M.S. ‘Kaiser Wilhelm II,’ when you arrive at Kiel.

“The most convenient time for visiting the ships will be after June 5th, as at that period the 1st Squadron will be lying at Kiel.

“(Signed) TIRPITZ.”

A little later I received an intimation from the German Embassy that His Majesty would be



pleased to see me and that Admiral von Tirpitz would introduce me to His Majesty.

Captain, now Admiral, Koeper, who was the means of communication with the Embassy, wrote to me that I should get an official intimation about this in due time. The cloven hoof, however, was shown in a letter from Captain, now Admiral, Koeper, who, having accepted an invitation to luncheon, excused himself from fulfilling his engagement with me owing to a telegram he had received from Admiral von Seuden saying that he was coming to London and wished Captain Koeper to go with him to Southampton on the day of our luncheon "to have a look at the Emperor's new yacht." Captain Koeper added: "I am very sorry indeed, as I should have liked very much to meet Mr. H. W. Wilson and also to have had a talk with you before you leave for Germany. I see Sir Rowland Blennerhasset goes strong in the *National Review*, also a man signed 'Ignotus.' Who is Ignotus? Mr. Maxse? I hope you find time to see the Düsseldorf exhibition. I hope to see you soon after your return from Germany."

On the same day I received an official letter from the German Ambassador, informing me that His Majesty the Emperor would be graciously pleased to receive me in audience and that Admiral von Tirpitz would present me to His Majesty. I was asked to call on Admiral von Tirpitz on arriving in Berlin in order to hear the particulars as to the time and place of the audience.

If the German Government ever think it worth while to examine the archives of the German Embassy in London they will find a letter written by me to Count Metternich explaining that my application for an interview was due to a desire "to influence English popular sentiment in the right channel and on the lines of good sense."

After I had seen the Emperor I received the following letter from Vice-Admiral von Tirpitz :

"BERLIN, den 9 *Juni*, 1902. .

"Der Staatssekretär des Reichs-Marine-Amts.

"MEIN LIEBER MR. WHITE !

"Im Auftrage Seiner Majestät des Kaisers beehre ich mich Ihnen anliegendes geschlossenes Couvert zu übersenden.

"Zugleich fuge ich unter Bezugnahme auf unsere Unterredung das Juni-Heft der Marinerundschau hinzu, dessen erster Artikel für Sie von Interesse sein wird.

"Mit grosster Hochachtung,

"Ihr ergebener,

"(Signed) v. TIRPITZ,

"Vize-Admiral.

"An Mr. Arnold White, Kiel."

*Translation.*

"BERLIN, *June* 9th, 1902.

"MY DEAR MR. WHITE,

"By command of His Majesty the Emperor I have pleasure in sending you the inclosed.

“With reference to our conversation I am sending with the above the July number of the *Naval Review*, the first article of which will interest you.

“With the greatest high-estimation,

“I am, yours faithfully,

“(Signed) v. TIRPITZ,

“Vice-Admiral.

“To Mr. Arnold White, Kiel.”

The German Emperor's cunning was to be met, not with cunning but with an English resolve to get at facts. The result of the interview at Potsdam is more effectively explained by the letter which I wrote to His Imperial Majesty on 2nd May, 1907, than by any comment of mine—in 1914 :

“To His Imperial Majesty The German Emperor,  
Neues Palais, Potsdam.

“May 2nd, 1907.

“SIRE,

“I had the honour to receive yesterday a courteous invitation from Berlin to be the guest of a distinguished committee representative of all spheres of society in the German Empire.

“Before accepting or declining this courteous offer of hospitality I have received to-day an intimation that the German Embassy has intervened with a statement to the effect that if my name appears on the list of guests invited to Germany, Your Imperial Majesty will refuse to receive the English journalists.

“It was further intimated that neither tickets nor



programme would be forwarded to me, as if the bare statement that Your Imperial Majesty personally objected to my presence in Germany were insufficient to deter me from accepting the invitation of the illustrious Berlin Committee.

“I am further informed that Your Imperial Majesty is incensed by certain articles of mine which have appeared in British journals.

“It would be an affectation to ignore the fact that I am obnoxious to Your Majesty for standing up for my own country by urging my countrymen to take note of the menace of the German Navy, and to maintain and increase the margin of naval supremacy which England now possesses, and to remember that the fair words of Your Imperial Majesty to individual Englishmen have been accompanied by sustained insult from the German Press, during her lifetime, to our beloved Queen Victoria, and, since Her Majesty's death, to our beloved King, and to statesmen whose names are honoured wherever the English language is spoken.

“As I write this letter, in front of me is a German spittoon bought by me in the principal street of Berlin, with the portrait of Mr. Chamberlain in such a position that the smoker using it may insult our great Imperial statesman.

“When I had the honour of being received by Your Majesty at Potsdam I told you frankly that Your Majesty misunderstood the temper of Englishmen if you thought that they condoned or forgave the insults of the German Press to our Royal Family.

“ Your Majesty will remember that you took special pains to convince me that you were a friend of England, instancing no less than five occasions when Your Majesty had returned good for evil by benevolent acts towards my country.

“ The interview was followed by the gift of Your Majesty’s portrait taken in the uniform of a British Admiral, with an autograph inscription proving the German Emperor’s desire to give pleasure to an English journalist without social or political influence.

“ From the date of that interview at Potsdam I have been convinced that Your Majesty is the secret, relentless, and implacable enemy of my country, and that the maintenance of peace must be the result not of journalistic amenities or Peace Conferences, but the existence of an English Navy so powerful as to encourage Your Majesty to ingeminate peace and ensue it.

“ If I have incurred the displeasure of Your Majesty for too zealous an advocacy of British sea power, I am reconciled to the erasure of my name from the list of English journalists who enjoy the approval of the German Embassy in London.

“ I have the honour to be, Sire,

“ Your Majesty’s obedient and humble servant,

“ (Signed) ARNOLD WHITE.”

## CHAPTER VII

### CAPTURING THE BRITISH PRESS

THE 1st of April is the anniversary of Bismarck's birthday. It is also the day when Europe can eat plover's eggs for the first time. Thirdly, the 1st of April is All Fools' Day. The month of April, 1907, commended itself to the German General Staff as the selected moment for persuading representatives of British public opinion that Germany loved England, if not with passionate affection, at all events with a cordial sincerity that nobody but a jingo, a Teutophobe, or a fool could possibly mistake.

Accordingly, the following invitation was issued to forty representative organs of British newspapers :

“BERLIN, *April*, 1907.

“DEAR SIR,

“Recalling the very hearty welcome accorded in England last summer to representatives of the German Press, a Committee has been formed, regardless of political sentiments and representative of all spheres of society in the German Empire, which desires to return the compliment and hospitality then shown, whilst at the same time *giving*



*expression to the friendly relations obtaining between the English and German nations. (Italics mine.)*

“We, the undersigned, on behalf of this Committee, have the honour to invite you herewith to be our guest in Germany from the 26th day of May next for about ten or twelve days.

“Full details of the programme to be drawn up for the entertainment of our English guests will be forwarded you within the next few days. Meanwhile, we have the honour to inform you that the North German Lloyd will send a special steamer on 26th of May to Dover to convey our guests from that port to Bremerhaven. It is intended to proceed from there to Bremen, Hamburg, Berlin, Dresden, Munich, Frankfort-am-Maine, and Cologne, in which cities special Committees have been formed to receive our guests and arrange for their entertainment.

“An early reply to this invitation will greatly oblige.

“We have the honour to be, Sir,

“Your very obedient servants,

“TRACHENBERG HATZFELDT.

“FRANZ VON MENDELSSOHN.

“FRIEDRICH DERNBURG.

“Arnold White, Esq., London.”

The names of the recipients of the invitation were as follows :

Mr. J. A. Spender (L.), *Westminster Gazette* ; Mr. J. Ellerthorpe (U.), *Daily Telegraph* (" Old Man " ) ; Mr. Harry Jones (L.), *Daily Chronicle* ; Mr. S. J. Pryor, *Tribune* (Day Editor *Times*) ; Mr. Sidney Low (C.), *Standard* ; Mr. A. G. Gardiner (L.), *Daily News* ; Mr. A. N. Cumming (Ind.), *Morning Advertiser* ; Mr. Lucien Wolf, *Daily Graphic* ; Mr. Bertram Christian (L.), *Morning Leader* ; Mr. F. H. Farthing (U.), *Daily Express* (Gardening Editor) ; Mr. Fred J. Higgenbottom (Ind. U.), *Pall Mall Gazette* (Manager) ; Mr. Percy Bunting, *Contemporary Review* ; Mr. A. H. Sidebottom (L.), *Manchester Guardian* ; Mr. F. G. Biles (L.), *Yorkshire Observer* ; Mr. James Davidson (Ind.), *Glasgow Herald* ; Mr. Wm. Weatherall (L.), *Liverpool Daily Post* ; Mr. J. S. R. Phillips (C.), *Yorkshire Daily Post* ; Mr. A. Geohegan (L.U.), *Scotsman* ; Mr. W. A. Machray (C.), *Liverpool Courier* ; Mr. T. Carlew Martin (L.), *Dundee Advertiser* ; Mr. John Derry (L.), *Sheffield Independent* ; Mr. T. H. Parkin (C.), *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* ; Mr. James Lumsden (Ind.), *Leeds Mercury* ; Mr. J. L. Edmondson (U.), *Manchester Courier* ; Sir Hugh Gilzean-Read, Tenterdon Hall, Hendon ; Mr. W. A. Locker (C.), *Irish Times* ; Mr. Wm. Brimelow (L.), *Bolton Evening News* ; Mr. John McGarth (Nat.), *Freeman's Journal* ; Sir F. W. Wilson, M.P. (Ind.), *East Anglian Daily Times* ; Mr. W. W. Hadley (L.), *Rochdale Observer* ; Mr. H. Read (L.), *South Wales Daily*

*News* ; Mr. D. H. Murray (dead), *Referee* ; Mr. W. M. Thompson (Dem.), *Reynolds* ; Mr. F. W. Dickenson, *Reuter's* ; Mr. Clement Shorter, *Sphere* ; Mr. Hunter, *Graphic* ; Mr. W. T. Stead, *Review of Reviews* ; Sir T. Kinloch Cooke, *Empire Review* ; Mr. Peter Keary, *Pearson's Publications* ; Mr. Arnold White, *Referee*.

In the previous chapter my letter to the German Emperor explains the reason why I was not so fortunate as to be included as a newspaper guest of the German Government. I sought an invitation which was procured for me by Mr. Clement Shorter, the Editor of *The Sphere*, whose interest in and influence with responsible Germans at that time was undeniable. I warmly thanked Mr. Clement Shorter for his good offices, because had I been a member of the party I should have been able to inform my countrymen why the German General Staff invited British Editors to drink Rhine wine, to be regaled with *delikatessen* and to bask in the Kultur of Imperial Potsdam. I am still so grateful to Mr. Clement Shorter for his kindness that I take this opportunity of repeating my thanks for his intercession with the German Government on my behalf.

It is stated on authority that the only reason my invitation was revoked was because I did not represent any newspaper sufficiently important to warrant the expenditure of German hospitality on so insignificant a person as the writer. As a signed photograph had already been given to me by the



Emperor, and as I had received much official hospitality, it is evident that that view was not always held by the German General Staff. They had changed their mind about me. I had not changed my mind about them.

As I was debarred from accompanying the Editorial party to Germany I published a statement which was intended to show that notwithstanding the ostentatious desire to win British public opinion certain factors of importance were deliberately hidden from the representatives of the Press of Britain which were deserving of no less attention than that portion of German activity which my Press colleagues were permitted to see.

The skill of the German Emperor in engineering this visit of British journalists illustrates his consummate cunning. As I hold in 1914 the same view as in 1907, I wish to recall the gist of what I wrote on the return of the British Editors from Germany in June, 1907. I was severely censured for saying that two score British Editors had looked upon half Germany, and that they were right in their appreciation of that half of Germany. No higher standard of organised force, intellect, and well-being existed in Europe. The other half of Germany was not shown because, as we all know now, Germany's weakness lay in her geographical position, which gives her, unlike England, who is the favoured one in this respect, very little sea board, few harbours, shallow coasts, and no iron alongside coal.

Half Germany in 1907 resented England's superior geographical position. The Editors didn't see that half. Half Germany regarded England much as a consummate card-player out of luck looks on a bad performer who holds four aces and three kings. During the last hundred years Germany has won for herself unity and wealth by three wars, the result of design.

We English had muddled through for the last hundred years. From the Crimean War England gained only experience and warning. The Boer War was the result of refusal to recognise the situation. The Indian Mutiny should have lost us India. We tried to scuttle out of Egypt. We neglected our Navy. English luck was bitterly resented by Germany.

The real power which drove the Kaiser and the German Staff in 1907 was the necessity for feeding, educating, and providing a career for nearly a million German babies every year. I urged that the case of these babies must be met either by German expansion or by German explosion. The two score British Editors were not told why they were invited. They did not see or hear of the million German babies. They looked on the quiet material prosperity of Germany. They did not see or hear the seething volcano of hatred to England below ready to burst forth at any moment. Germany obtained a slight relief from her burden in her wars with Denmark, Austria, and France. In 1907 once again the claim was becoming insistent.



Germany, the greatest military Power in Europe, had no colonies. Russia has Siberia ; France, America, Japan, and Britain have practically limitless possibilities of expansion. Britain stood between Germany and the world. The Emperor, understanding the needs of his country, knew that no Hague Conference or editorial conversations could ever affect the central problem of the German nation : the provision of careers for a new million babies every year. Peace was not to be secured by sacrificing British babies to German babies, but the German Staff was clever enough to conceal from the British Editors this elementary and indisputable fact.

Germany wanted England's colonies ; England having eighty years' start of Germany and having obtained some formless kind of dominion over the choicest parts of the temperate globe, she only wanted to be left alone. Germany therefore could only expand at the expense of other nations. Food dictated her policy in 1907. The seizure of Schleswig-Holstein, Alsace-Lorraine, Kiaou Chau, the German marriage of the Queen of Holland, the Kiel Canal, the Triple Alliance, and the building of the German Navy were all dictated by the necessity of providing food and careers for the annual million babies.

Englishmen in 1907 would not face the facts. Educationally, industrially, commercially, and in military policy Germany was organised up to the hilt. Her foreign policy was compulsory, being



imposed on her by a combination of false philosophy and a million babies. Attempts at expansion in any direction raised enormous difficulties. The United States of America checked Germany in Brazil : her isolated leased territory in China was held with the stifled reluctance of England and Japan. Russia checked her on the east ; the British Fleet kept her out of Paris. Race antagonism confronted her in the South. Only Holland and England remained in her path.

The Kaiser knew that in 1907 it would be folly to risk war in the then condition of the two fleets. He wanted time. Germany and the Kaiser constantly harped on the possibilities of the British Empire and the slack way we use those possibilities. The Kaiser understood the condition of the British Navy and waited his time. He saw England finding her feet again and sought an extension of time to create his Navy. Therefore he decreed that the British Editors should be invited to Germany that they might see one half of Germany and form their conclusions accordingly. Friendship between the two countries was impossible as long as Germany wanted what Britain possessed. The chosen Editors were certified as " safe " by the Emperor's Ambassador who revised the list by cancelling only one invitation.

Peace is the equilibrium of great forces. A strong British Navy assures peace. British Dreadnoughts insure peace better than treaties or the wishes of those who forget that war is the condition of exist-

ence. England must always employ, pay, and feed her workmen and fighting men if she wants peace. Unemployment was scarce in Germany in 1907. A supreme navy, a strong army, a people trained to arms, a blunt diplomacy, and reorganised finance will always secure peace. But in 1907 we preferred the word peace to the fact peace.

Forty British Editors came home with the idea that Anglophobia is confined to a few erratic and irresponsible people in Germany. They were wrong. The Pan-Germanic party and Press (muzzled for one month to prevent British pressmen from learning the truth about Germany) represented half Germany. An even more powerful section was attempting to absorb Austria, Switzerland, and Holland in the German Empire. "England is their Carthage; 'Delenda est Carthago' their motto." They seek Britain's colonies and India. Can we blame them? The Pan-Germanic party is the flesh and blood of Prussia. It has given us fair warning of what we may expect.

On reading over what I have written I am sensible that it may seem that I who am not a trained journalist am censuring trained journalists. I am. I do not think that the German capture of English public opinion in 1907 was in any sense disgraceful to the representatives of British newspapers, but I do urge strongly that the same measure should be meted out to Fleet Street as to Harley Street. Fleet Street shared with the Government the responsibility for wrong diagnosis. Mr. Lloyd

George (whose magnificent eloquence is a tremendous asset in fighting Potsdam) himself told us in November, 1914, that :

“There was not a man in the Cabinet who thought that war with Germany was a possibility under present conditions.”

Representatives of the British Press may be forgiven for sharing the illusions of the rulers of our country, and I may be forgiven for suggesting that the chief danger of democracy is trusting men who believe not the truth but that which they want to believe.



## CHAPTER VIII

### THE BRITISH PRESS AND GERMANY

I QUOTE chapter and verse in support of the statement that the eyes of British Editors were innocently blinded to the real design of the German Emperor. When Harley Street makes a wrong diagnosis and a patient dies, Harley Street is discredited. When Fleet Street makes a wrong diagnosis, Fleet Street ought to be discredited. The people who for years were discredited, attacked, and traduced were those who saw the truth.

The following are excerpts from prominent British newspapers written during and after the memorable visit of British journalists to Germany in 1907. With few exceptions British journalism was shepherded into taking the view that the German General Staff desired it to take.

“ We note with much pleasure the great success of the visit of the British journalists to Germany . . . the frank interchange of expressions of views and of social courtesies will, we are sure, do much to clear away misunderstandings which have too often been mischievously fostered by a section

of the press of both countries.”—“Notes of the Day,” *Westminster Gazette*, 30th May, 1907.

At the banquet at the Berlin Zoological Gardens, Mr. Spender, Editor of the *Westminster Gazette*, said :

“What strikes one in looking back over the relations of the two countries and the friction which occasionally arises between them is the vagueness and lack of substance in the complaints made by each against the other. . . . Might not we journalists who know each other’s conditions and difficulties be a little more willing to make allowance for each other’s indiscretions ? We who live in England know that we have none of the aggressive intentions against Germany which a few of your controversialists impute to us ; you who live in Germany *know that you have none of the aggressive intentions against England that a few of our controversialists impute to you.* (Italics mine.) Our problem is to convince each other of what we each know to be true ourselves. . . . We who come to your country see a great and peaceful population immensely absorbed in industry and the art of living, needing all its energies to work out its own problems, the problems of labour and capital, hearth and home and parent and child—a population which though proud and fearless is yet anxious by all honourable means to avoid the dreadful calamity of war . . . surely there could be no greater mischief than to set these two peoples by the

ears for the sake of making a sensation for the readers of newspapers.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 30th May, 1907.

Mr. Sidney Low, of the *Standard*, said :

“ . . . It (their reception) was a compliment not merely to the English press but to that great body of men and women in England who admired and esteemed the German people, and desired to cultivate the closest relations and friendship between them. . . . The new century had more difficult problems in store for humanity than any of its predecessors—and he hoped and believed that the German and the English intellects would march side by side and hand in hand towards their victorious solution.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 30th May, 1907.

“ At the banquet in the Rathaus, Mr. A. G. Gardiner, Editor of the *Daily News*, appealed to the German press to dissipate the atmosphere of suspicion.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 30th May, 1907.

“ It is generally remarked that the words used by the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs were satisfactory, and that they voiced the sentiments of the German people, with the exception of those of Pan-German kidney, whose only complaint is that they were tinged with too warm protestations of friendship. *The partisans of this mode of thought in Germany—I mean Pan-Germans*



—*are notoriously in a very small minority, and they exercise no greater influence on the general trend of public affairs than the noisy minorities of other countries.* (Italics mine.) . . . It was pointed out last night that the main difficulties that troubled the two countries were no real essential differences at all.”—From our Berlin Correspondent, 30th May: *Westminster Gazette*, 1st June, 1907.

“Mr. Clement Shorter, in a speech which was warmly cheered, expressed the hope that a mutual understanding and friendship would be established between the two countries.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 6th June, 1907.

How was that possible when filthy libels on England and her King were the staple diet of the German reading public stimulated by the Reptile Press and the German Navy League?

“These pressmen have been treated . . . not as ordinary visitors, but with the attention and distinction of special envoys. Monarchs have stepped forward to shake hands with them and to greet them to their country and home—amongst them Kaiser Wilhelm, who by his smile, his words, and general demeanour showed beyond doubt that he cherishes cordial feelings for England—the native country of his illustrious mother—the one land whose friendship he desires to cultivate. . . . The results attained may assuredly be taken as a full and perfect vindication for the

attitude during the past few years of those who have resolutely combatted the idea that deep hatred for England sat in the hearts of Germans. What has been underlying the apparent unfriendliness of Germans has been a feeling of injured dignity. . . . Meanwhile it may be taken as reality that the Germans wish to be friends with Great Britain, but as their statesmen repeat on every occasion, friends on terms of equality. They always try to make it appear that misunderstandings have been of our making. The best aim for the future should be to avoid cause for any misunderstandings, and this can be done by each side abandoning distrust of the other and by replacing distrust by frank and open dealing.”—From our Berlin Correspondent, *Westminster Gazette*, 11th June, 1907.

“LEPROUS PRESS : CREATING ANIMOSITY BETWEEN ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

“Dr. Spence Watson presided at the Annual Meeting of the Peace Society at the City Temple last evening, and declared his belief that the only pressing danger of trouble between this country and Germany was in the ‘leprous press’ of both countries—not the whole press, but the papers that manufacture untruths. Would not the men who owned these papers learn *Noblesse Oblige* and think shame of themselves for letting their creatures stir up animosity between the two countries? If it continued, he believed a cry

would arise for the restriction of the liberty of the press.”—*Daily Chronicle*, 22nd May, 1907.

At luncheon in the White Hall, Mr. H. Jones (of the *Daily Chronicle*) said :

“The British visitors brought a message of friendship to their kinsmen across the German Ocean.”

Mr. Spender knows something of the German character now. What was to prevent his acquiring some knowledge of the reality of German envy and hatred of England in the year 1907 ?

At a dinner at the Berlin Chamber of Commerce W. T. Stead said :

“He admired the German Army more than any other, because for thirty-five years it had never been employed in war. They had a peace-loving Emperor in Germany, a *commis voyageur* of peace in King Edward. Ministers devoted to peace in Von Bülow and Campbell-Bannerman. Two things were required—a less explosive temper among the people and an international agreement declaring an enemy of the human race any Power having recourse to arms without first appealing for mediation.”—*Daily Chronicle*, 31st May, 1914.

Germany was the enemy and had announced the fact in the preamble of her Navy Bill of 1900 and in the Emperor's speech at Stettin.



“By universal consent the visit of the British Editors has made a deeper impression on German public opinion than that made by any previous writers from England.”—*Review of Reviews*, 13th June, 1907.

“ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS : Pacific sentiments.

“There were singularly few traces of animosity against England, though in some circles there was deep distrust of British policy, and alike in North and in South Germany we found everywhere a sincere passion for peace. . . . Wherever we went we found that the notion of war between England and Germany was simply unthinkable. . . . Whatever the feelings of the military caste, there can be no question that the mass of the German people are well disposed to this country. . . . In the office of a leading German newspaper a member of the staff was pointed out to me as a violent Anglophobe. . . . The only English magazine among them (those on his table) was the *National Review*, whose Teuto-phobism is notorious. In England the hot vehemence of the *National Review* is for amusement, not for edification. It has no weight in our public life ; it exercises no influence on our affairs. There are not half a dozen men who would subscribe to its fantastic doctrines. Yet in some circles in Germany this magazine, the articles of whose creed are opposed to every

historic English tradition, is regarded as a true exponent of English feeling. . . . There is full confidence in the *bona fides* of the present British Government. . . . They think that the real permanent opinion of England is voiced by our jingoes and the *Times*.

“ . . . Germans are almost nervously anxious to justify the maintenance of their great army, and to vindicate the attitude of their Government in regard to the arrest of armaments.

(Germans are delighted with our concessions to South Africa and our Free Trade policy,)

“ . . . Peace is the greatest of all British interests, said one of our statesmen. Peace is the greatest of German interests to-day. To Germany, with her expanding commerce and prosperous industries, war would be an immeasurable disaster.”—Mr. Harry Jones, *Daily Chronicle*, 12th June, 1907.

Prince Bülow was “delighted” with the attitude of the *Daily News*.

“ ‘You are our friend,’ he said.

“ ‘We are for friendship with all the nations,’ I said, ‘and the friendships we have made are all consistent with friendship with Germany, which the heart of this country desires.’

“ A distinguished person said to me at dinner :

“ ‘Oh yes, I know that the British Government is friendly—but the Liberal Government is an incident. It will pass. It is the Conservative

and military party which is the permanent factor in English politics.' ”—A. G. G.,” *Daily News*, 30th May, 1907.

“ . . . Two feelings . . . dominate the German Empire in all classes. The one is a profound distrust of England. The other is a profound desire for a good understanding with England. The former is one of the legacies of the rule of the Reaction in this country, and cannot be removed in a night and a day. Mischief-makers on both sides have succeeded only too well: on the one hand, in impressing our people that Germany is building a fleet in order to invade these islands ; on the other hand, that England is determined to destroy Germany's Colonies and grab Germany's overseas possessions. The influence of reason and of time alone can mitigate this sentiment. But, on the other hand, everywhere is being manifested, with a strength that cannot be set lightly aside, the desire for friendliness and goodwill between their country and our own. Without weakening or jeopardising any existing *ententes*, it should be the work of all sane politicians and publicists to remove the suspicion and mistrust of future designs which exist on one side as well as the other ; to work together for the continuance of the peace of the world.”—Leader, *Daily Chronicle*, 7th June, 1907.

“ You cannot talk for even five minutes with the Kaiser without realising that, whatever else



he may be, he is at all events a personality. You begin to understand something of the magnetic influence that has radiated from him during nineteen years of strenuous rule. The Kaiser has the fascination which belongs to most strong individualities—the fascination which is acknowledged, perhaps reluctantly, by those whom the individuality repels as well as by those whom it attracts. He looked every inch a ruler and a soldier as he sat on his horse beside one in the sunlight. That, of course, we knew . . . but I was less prepared for the frank and almost boyish geniality of his manner, the sunny smile which broke so easily across features that in repose seem stern, almost defiant with repressed energy . . . he spoke kindly of England and the English. . . . It is not usual for the Kaiser to converse with journalists. The exception he has made in our favour is assuredly a fact of significance as well as of very gratifying attention to ourselves and the Press of Great Britain, and—it is only fair to add—to the people of Great Britain also. The Kaiser made it clear that he was gracious and polite to us, not so much because we were pressmen as because we came from England.”—Special Correspondent, *Standard*, 1st June, 1907.

“GERMANY AND BRITAIN: Germany desires friendly relations with England at present because she would be at a serious disadvantage if

a breach occurred at a time when the overwhelming superiority of the British Navy, together with the alliances which Britain has concluded, render Great Britain comparatively invulnerable. . . . It is no disparagement to German courage . . . but a tribute to German prudence to say that these considerations are the real cause of the present official manifestations of peaceful and amiable desires. Germany favours the maintenance of friendly relations, first that she may increase her naval armaments in undisputed repose, and, second, in the hope that in course of time her diplomacy may destroy the chain of alliance and friendships which Great Britain is forging (according to the prevalent German view) with a deliberate purpose of hostility towards Germany.”—*Standard*, 10th June, 1907, from Our Correspondent.

This is extracted from a long article illustrating this point, quoting journals which remark that all the festivities will not change Germany's real attitude—that many critics expressed their disapproval of Von Mühlberg's speech.

An article by Mr. Sidney Low discussing whether “all this friendliness is put on,” as certain writers in England state to be the case.

“I have done my best to understand and enter into this idea, and for my part I can only declare that I believe it to be erroneous . . . let us

add that the average German likes the average Englishman and has grown impatient of the persistent attempts of certain of his own journalists and politicians to make mischief between the two countries. It is not to be supposed that international courtesies and travelling picnics can affect the policy of two great nations . . . it is not policy they are trying to interest so much as sentiment ; let us each pursue our own interests, they would say, but let us at least be friends.'—*Standard*, 11th June, 1907.

Imagine the difference to the British Empire which would have resulted from a correct reading of German opinion by British journalists in relation to Great Britain and the British Empire in 1907. Let us hope that in future we shall be less anxious to believe what we want to believe, more resolute in seeking unpleasing facts and for distinguishing between a correct diagnosis of dangerous symptoms and a vulgar jingoism which disgusts nobody more than honest men.

From the British Museum Library I have procured evidence as to the plot of the Potsdam gang in their attempt to mould British public opinion in accordance with the wishes of the German General Staff, in order to prepare the way for the looting of London, Manchester, Glasgow, and the richer cities of the Empire. It is evident that German officials, both State and municipal,



were in league for the purpose of destroying the influence which the late Earl Roberts and a few other Englishmen were beginning to exert on the question of the German peril. For that reason the following extracts from British newspapers of high standing and character should be studied with care.

At the Banquet at Bremen Dr. Marcus said :

“ . . . We attach the greatest importance . . . to friendly relations with other peoples and more especially with that nation which you represent.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 29th May, 1907.

British journalists reached Bremen and were received by a deputation from the Senate, Burgo-master, City Authorities, etc. Dr. Marcus, President of the Senate, said :

“ You have come over to Germany, not as officially accredited deputies, but as ambassadors of public opinion of your country, which, in unison with that of ours, considers it requisite for the weal and benefit of the nations to form personal acquaintances and to learn to understand each other.”—*Daily Chronicle*, 28th May, 1907.

The President of the Senate of Bremen was “ out ” to create a misunderstanding between the two countries. Germany understood England, and there was a danger that England was about to understand Germany. That danger was averted for the time being.

From the *Hamburger Correspondent* :

“ . . . Neither the Germans nor the English have any reason whatever for striving to destroy their respective rival. We can—nay, we must—both prosper together . . . only hotspurs will dream of war between England and Germany. . . . The English will observe that no hostility against England is cherished either by Hamburgers or by Germans in any part of the Empire.”  
*Westminster Gazette*, 30th May, 1907.

Considering the long stream of foul indecency and violent insult and attack on England and the English the *Hamburger Correspondent* was practising upon the frank intelligence of the representatives of British opinion in suggesting that no hostility was cherished by Germany against England.

The Ober Bürgermeister at the Rathaus banquet said :

“ Since our guests touched the deck of a German ship at Dover and set foot on German soil at Bremen they have received from every German mouth the assurance that the German people entertain a keen and sincere wish to live with the English nation, as in the past, so for ever in the future, on terms of close friendship and in peace. We may assume with certainty that men who are accustomed to form an independent judgment and to represent it publicly before their readers will successfully obtain

attention, when they get home, to their descriptions of the impressions which they will have obtained when travelling through peace-loving Germany.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 3rd June, 1907.

We have now seen for ourselves how brilliant a collaborator in the great task of civilisation is “Holy Germany.”

The Prince Regent of Bavaria said :

“I trust that good relations will obtain between Germany and England to the advantage and benefit of both countries.”—*Westminster Gazette*, 6th June, 1907.

“ANGLO-GERMAN AMITY : A leading article in *Der Post*, which is evidently inspired, draws attention to recent articles in a section of the London press calculated to sow dissension between Germany and England by statements to the effect that in Germany war between the two countries is regarded as inevitable.

“The *Post*, which is by no means friendly to England, emphatically states that in Germany no responsible politician holds this view. On the contrary, in Germany as in England, responsible men know no higher object than the maintenance of peace and regard existing armaments as serving this purpose.

“Between the two countries, it says, there does not exist any question to cause a conflict.



There are no points of friction which could lead necessarily to war. Not only is this the opinion of statesmen, but of the vast majority of people of both nations. It is only a dwindling minority on both sides which thinks otherwise, a minority which has no influence on international politics. It is a direct perversion of the truth not to recognise this, and to give as the public opinion of Germany the views which fills the heads of fools or criminals.

“The *Post* stigmatises this method of controversy as perfidious, as a warfare against which the sharpest measures are necessary.”—*Daily Chronicle*, from Our Correspondent, Berlin, Thursday, 17th May, 1907.

“Dr. Mühlberg (Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs) said that in a section of the British press a fable appeared that ‘Germany was menacing and disturbing the peace of the world.’ Germany possesses a gallant and powerful army of which she was proud, but could it be said that the strength of this army was ever abused? A comparison with the strength of the British fleet could leave the impartial observer in no doubt that the German naval forces were only intended as a protection for the German coasts and sea trade. We do not strive for anything more. For this aim, however, we strive with all the might appertaining to a great progressive nation. . . . Let us raise our glasses to the welfare,

prosperity, dignity, and fame of our countries, Great Britain and Germany.”

On the same occasion :

“ Germany did not need territorial expansion.”  
—*Westminster Gazette*, 30th May, 1907.

Dr. Mühlberg was a Minister whose flexibility of adaptation played a great part in blindfolding the British. His hardihood of assertion implied invincible faith in the simplicity and credulity of the British Press.

“ The Kaiser was in an affable mood. ‘ I am glad to welcome you to my country and to my house.’

“ He was glad to see the British journalists, and wished that other influential people would come over from Great Britain so that they might become familiar with German ideas and sentiments.”—Leading article: *Daily Chronicle*, 1st June, 1907.

“ MUNICH.

“ *Frankfurter Zeitung* points out, ‘ We can only repeat to our British friends that the German nation in no way intends to exchange the present situation for the highly uncertain prospect of war. It would be rank folly on our part to desire to deprive the English of their colonies. India, even if we could get it, would not give us as great a return as German industry yields year by year. Scope for our

industry is all we ask, and this scope will have to be left us. This is the view of the German people. It is immaterial if a few cranks think or speak differently.' ”—*Daily Chronicle*, 4th June, 1907.

“ Frankfort. Dr. Adickes, Chief Burgomaster, said : ‘ . . . Germans desired to live in amity with Englishmen, and to stand with them at the head of German culture.’ ”—*Daily Chronicle*, 5th June, 1907.

“ At Saalburg. Dr. Reudiger made a speech and emphasised the fact that Germans entertained no feeling of hostility to England.”—*Daily Chronicle*, 5th June, 1907.

“ Cologne. Dr. von Mallenckrodt of the Town Council assured the visitors that the wish of the German people was to share by means of peaceful and honest rivalry the aims and ideals of the British nation.”—*Daily Chronicle*, 6th June, 1907.

“ Cologne. Herr Posse, Chief Editor of the *Koelnische Zeitung*, emphasised the fact that the German army and navy were solely intended for defence, not for attack. Britain’s Fleet was necessary to her for the defence of her Empire. He laid stress on Germany’s friendly spirit, and declared that the statements that the German press was merely the tool of the Government at whose behest it pursued particular political aims



were pure fables. 'Trust us and we will trust you. Long live our British guests.'—*Daily Chronicle*, 7th June, 1907.

Herr Posse is happily named. To be able to assert before forty British Pressmen that the German press was not the tool of the German Government, without losing countenance, was a feat for which the Order of the Red Eagle would have been but inadequate recognition.

## CHAPTER IX

### THE GERMAN PRESS

BETWEEN 1902 and 1914 (with the interval of a month) the German comic Press, and even serious organs of official opinion, have consistently bespattered with mud Britain and the British. The effect on the German public of the Peace of Vereeniging was that of a sudden shock. Prussia had expected—had counted on the break-up of the British Empire and, as in 1914, had miscalculated. So greatly had the German General Staff misjudged the situation in 1899 when the Boer War broke out that the restoration of Peace with the Boers with England strong and free was something more than a disappointment to German commercial men, diplomats, strategists, and naval thinkers and writers. “England,” they said, “has her hands free. She has dealt with the Boers; she may now deal with Germany.”

The campaign of calumny against England began forthwith and with one short armistice, when forty British journalists visited Prussia, has never ceased. I collected over two hundred copies of German illustrated newspapers, especially back numbers of *Ulk*, *Simplicissimus*, and *Kladderaddatsch*.

To recall the envenomed filth of these journals is not necessary. But it is necessary to recall the fact that the control of the German Emperor over the expression of public opinion is absolute. The memory of Queen Victoria, whom the Kaiser Wilhelm professed to revere, was defiled by some of the foulest and most disgusting emanations from the dark souls of pupils of Nietzsche and Treitschke.

The attacks on Queen Victoria and on King Edward VII were conducted by the Anglophobe Press of Germany with nameless indecency. They were neither defended nor apologised for by any leader of German thought or by the ruler of Germany. They were permitted, and were not suppressed. The stereotyped malignity of Teutonic newspapers against England was a potent influence in exciting German jealousy, German hatred, and German malice against England and the English. The German Emperor told me that the late James Gordon Bennett expended large sums of money on the Anglophobe Press of Europe in order to bring about war between England and Germany. Possibly he was telling the truth, but the subsidised ill-will against Great Britain in every country of Europe and in the United States of America for the last thirteen years has been conducted partly with the consent, if not at the instigation of the German Emperor. The calumnies against England have been continuous, relentless, and indecent. Recrimination is futile. Prince Henry of Prussia told me with a smile at the Schloss at Kiel: "You English are



not loved in America.” That may be true, but nobody loves Potsdam. No British newspaper has ever resorted to pornographic indecency for the purpose of injuring or belittling the House of Hohenzollern. Rudolf Blind, the son of Karl Blind, has painted a picture of the German Emperor with the title “THE OUTLAW.” The Emperor’s press campaign against England has recoiled on himself. He is hated all the world over.

I have made it my business to discover the truth of the charges levelled against the British Press by German leaders of thought. On January 18th, 1896, a letter was published in *Punch* beginning “Mein lieber Willie,” signed “Grand-mamma,” and containing the following words : “Als der ein ganz Kleiner Bube warst habe ich dich oft tuchtig gespankt. (And now that you are grown-up you ought to be spanked too.)” I have been informed on Ministerial authority in Berlin that that poem angered the Kaiser more than anything that had appeared in the English Press. The idea of the All Highest being spanked by his Grandmother was repugnant to Prussian Kultur. Of the series of indecent German lampoons and caricatures on King Edward, I can only say that my blood boiled. At the same time I was convinced that an absolute government like that at Potsdam was as much responsible for the insults to the King of England as the artists who drew or the authors who wrote the productions. I destroyed my collection of these filthy evidences of German Kultur,

but presumably they all exist. When peace is dictated in Berlin the evidence of the German newspapers for the last twelve years should be collected and deposited with the archives of the war for the benefit of future historians.

That England and Germany remained friends after such exhibitions of ill-feeling as marked the German Press at the close of the Boer War proved one of two things ; either fatuous credulity on the part of the English or unconcealed contempt on the part of the Germans for their English rivals.

The origin of our trouble with Germany began on April 9th, 1864, when a debate on the merits of the German treatment of the Danes took place in the House of Lords. Responsible Germans, so the friends of the Emperor tell me, declare that nothing worse was ever said about the merits of the Boer War than was said by the English in Lord Palmerston's time about the German treatment of the Danes. England's taunt that Germany first encouraged the Boers and then retreated from her tacit undertakings was paralleled according to the Kaiser's friends, by England's encouragement of Denmark and England's failure to help her in her need. Germany claimed a far larger interest in South Africa, especially through the German population of Johannesburg, than the English ever possessed in Denmark.

The German Press has always worked under the exhausted atmosphere of the censorship. Compared with the Editors and Journalists of London, Man-

chester, Glasgow, Paris, or New York, German writers are underpaid and at all times dependent on bureaucracy for existence. *Vorwärts*, the organ of the Socialists, and one of the best edited papers in Germany, had no influence in delaying the declaration of war.

Good judges of style avow that the German newspapers are atrociously written.<sup>1</sup>

German newspapers for twelve years, whatever was the fact before, have not been written by gentlemen. When Scott, the Arctic explorer, and Captain Oates, a very gallant gentleman, perished in the snow, one German paper suggested suicide forced upon the leader of the Expedition in order to avoid bankruptcy due to England's niggardliness.

The writing in the German Press after the sinking of the *Titanic* was a disgrace to the disciples of Treitschke. In the United States those German taunts and sneers shocked those who read them. Mr. Price Collier says that "every gentleman in Germany must have been ashamed of the writing in the German Press after the sinking of the *Titanic*. There was a blaze of brutal Phariseism that put a bar-sinister across any claim to gentlemanliness on the part of the majority."

The German Press, like Krupp's works at Essen, has been a murder factory. To secure the peace of the world the destruction of both is an unconditional necessity.

<sup>1</sup> See Mr. J. Ellis Barker's *Modern Germany*, p. 347.



## CHAPTER X

### THE KAISER'S MISCALCULATIONS

“You English are mad—mad as march hares. What has come over you that you are so completely given over to suspicions quite unworthy of a great nation? Falsehood and prevarication are alien to my nature. My actions ought to speak for themselves; but you listen, not to them, but to those who misrepresent and distort them.”—KAISER WILHELM II.

DURING the last twelve years nothing has amazed me more than the opinion commonly held among my countrymen with regard to the Kaiser. I have firmly held to the opinion, since I met His Majesty, that every world-ruler entrusted with the power of making war should be medically examined every five years. It is not too much for humanity to require sanity and normality in their rulers. An English First Lord of the Admiralty in recent times was a certified lunatic before he was deprived of the seals of office. The degrees of insanity are as many as the points of the compass. Not one of us is quite sane. When we are angry and say things we do not mean the steering gear of our brain is out of order. For the transaction of important business cool and deliberate speech and action are essential. The Kaiser lacks perspective, deliberation, and judgment.

The superficial view held by the British people

concerning the personality of the German Kaiser is due to two causes : (1) our insular position, and (2) the perfection of the Reptile Press department of the German General Staff. To the majority of Englishmen, Scotsmen, Welshmen, and Irishmen loyal to the Crown and friends of the Empire the Kaiser has appeared as an impulsive, reckless, talkative young man with the faults of youth, with a foible for omniscience and an agreeable jack-of-all-trades—a man who dashed off erratic telegrams fraught with grave consequences, but who was a real good fellow at heart and who was very fond of his grandmother Queen Victoria. Did not Kaiser Wilhelm rush over to Osborne when the old Queen was dying and insist on the Queen dying in his arms ?

During the last twelve years any allusion in the Press to the German Kaiser as a criminal maniac and the most implacable enemy which this country ever possessed was received with pious indignation by the great, wise, and eminent leaders of public and religious opinion in these kingdoms. Anyone was thrust out of court as an egregious person in public life who declared that the Emperor Wilhelm was an Imperial hooligan. I, for one, was<sup>er</sup> thus boycotted, denounced, and penalised.

For good reason and on sound evidence I attempted to warn my fellow-countrymen that hooliganism in international affairs was no less possible than hooliganism in the West End or in the East End of great cities. The real feeling of the

British towards the German Emperor, so far as public opinion expressed itself, was that such phrases as "the mailed fist" and such orders as he gave to recruits to shoot down their fathers and mothers at his order were merely the ebullient manifestations of an eager, picturesque, and vivid character with as much English blood in his veins as King Edward VII.

I always agreed with the late Emil Reich that the German Kaiser, in many things that related to the destruction of England, was a man of ripe, sober, and substantial judgment. It is improbable that there has existed during the last twelve years a better-informed individual on the continent of Europe. That he did not act on solid fact and that his information was bad, as we shall see later on, is irrelevant and has nothing to do with the indictment of his masters, the Potsdam gang of militarists.

The German Kaiser, to whom travel is what vodka is (or was) to the Russian moujik, or gin to the wastrel of the English slum, knew what he knew of the great States and personalities of Europe from personal contact. He speaks their languages. He studies their history. He told me that he was a very busy man, but that in his few hours of leisure the study of history was his favourite recreation. I believed him. But the study of history by an inferior and mimetic mind and that mind unhinged by disease, is useless for practical governance, and fatal to the peace of the world.



Look at the effect of the Kaiser's study of history in recent years. He has failed in everything. Every one remembers the telegram to President Kruger which alienated British sympathy, or rather the sympathy of Britons who wished well to Great Britain. That telegram and the arrest of the German ships *Bundesrath* and *Hertzog* with the degrading surrender of our Foreign Office which followed, were the events that induced me to study the personality of the German Emperor.

Thousands of my countrymen did the same thing. They came to the conclusion that if anybody loved England it was Kaiser Wilhelm. After the arrest of the *Bundesrath* and the Kruger telegram affairs things developed with the United States, the Power which is next on the list for destruction by Germany after England is disposed of. The German Emperor blundered over the Spanish-American War of 1898. The Pan-German idea of saturating Brazil with the spirit of *Deutschtum* was not a success. The Potsdam spirit illustrated by the incident which led to unpleasant relations with Admiral Dewey over Manilla led to such ill-feeling that Prince Henry of Prussia was despatched with a statue of Frederick the "Great" as an olive branch to the United States. Prince Henry of Prussia, who does not relish the reminder of being the instrument of the "mailed fist," told me at the Schloss at Kiel, after his return from the United States, that the Americans did not love us—meaning the English. I am grateful to His Royal Highness for his

frankness. He conveyed to me by his elation when communicating the antipathy of the Americans to the English that he did not love us; that his big brother did not love us, that the Pan-Germans did not love us, and that Deutschtum was incompatible with the British command of the sea, incompatible with the English Raj in India, and incompatible with the love of freedom which Britain has always displayed when a would-be Master of the World has attempted to realise his ambition.

South America has been marked down as a "particulate colony of Germany—especially Brazil." The Americans were "up against" Wilhelm of Hohenzollern as they had been "up against" the Third Napoleon's designs on Mexico. The German Emperor, with a judgment as withered as his left arm, retained the cunning sense of jeopardy which lingers long in minds that are really diseased but appear to be sound. He began a campaign of flattering American people.

The object of the German Foreign Office, of course, was to drive in a wedge between the English and German races in the United States. During the Venezuelan trouble, when President Cleveland failed to hustle the late Lord Salisbury into blundering into indiscretion, Pan-Germanism was hard at work. The common sense of London and of Washington survived the ordeal. The American people had demonstrated, despite their semi-dislike of England, that they were not in the least afraid of the Potsdam crew. Successive American Govern-



ments have never forgotten the crookedness of Potsdam. At last Washington, at least, understands that the British Isles are a breakwater that stand between the United States and the German Fury that has devastated Antwerp as Philip II, Parma and the Spanish vandals, by the Spanish Fury, devastated Antwerp in 1576.

I remember visiting Leicester during the Boer War to take part in the political conference of the Liberal-Unionist Party when Mr. Chamberlain, who had recently been staying at Windsor Castle with the Kaiser, stretched out the hand of England in the hope of an Anglo-German friendship. Prince von Bülow's coarse rejection of Mr. Chamberlain's proposal for an understanding revealed a sentiment of contemptuous Anglophobia as prevalent in Germany. History will decide whether Mr. Chamberlain and the Government of the day were right or wrong in attempting to make a deal with Germany. The fact remains that England's offer was rejected with derision. Germany was in no mood for England's friendship ; didn't want it. The reason why Germany rejected the offer of English friendship was because the German Kaiser at Windsor Castle had taken the measure of Mr. Chamberlain's greatness, and with characteristic cunning had induced him to make an offer which would be contumeliously rejected with the object of injuring a great statesman in the eyes of his countrymen. Mr. Chamberlain was not duped ; but he made a gesture of peace.



Furthermore, the German Emperor so little read the actual situation in England at that time that the decadence of Britain was accepted by him as indisputable. He knew nothing of the middle classes. His Ambassador in London poured into the German Foreign Office streams of information pointing to the decline and fall of the British Empire. Of the silent men of action nothing was said. Of the latent love for freedom and of the determination to be let alone by a would-be conqueror of the world, the German Ambassador knew nothing. Of the directing ability, capacity, and resolution to resist conquest the German Embassy was silent. Count Metternich and his successors reported the mouthings of quarter-educated Socialists and politicians who did not understand the paramount effect of geography, race, and circumstance on forming the character and arranging the destiny of nations.

## CHAPTER XI

### IF WILHELM CAME!

“I made up my mind, after reading the lessons of history, never to dream of a vast world-empire. For what has become of all these so-called world-empires? Alexander, Napoleon, and all such great captains bathed themselves in blood, and yet left behind them subjugated peoples, who, after those great men had died, rose in revolt and ruined the empires they had created.”—KAISER WILHELM II.

THE versatile Wilhelm, in the words quoted at the head of this chapter, repeated a truth obvious to any competent student of history. No world-tyrant can provide a successor competent to maintain the cohesion of the world-system he has established. The antipathies, jealousies, and hatreds which a would-be master of the world rouses during his lifetime continue after his death. The centrifugal forces replace the centripetal. Memories are long, and the murder of freedom, more especially in recent times, is never forgiven, never forgotten, and never condoned.

If Wilhelm II of Prussia were crowned in Westminster Abbey as William V of England, the world would not be happy. Empires are not made in Germany. Napoleon, without the great ideas of the French Revolution, could have done nothing. The

German Emperor and the Potsdam system are incapable of creating out of the British Empire an organic administration. In the eighteenth century England lost her American territory and people because English politicians had earned, without necessity, the enmity of Holland, France, and Spain. If Great Britain were to blunder into a similar error in the treatment of other Powers at the present time, there is no reason why a new Charlemagne in the person of Wilhelm should not reign over a Germanised planet.

Prussia, however, has committed the same errors that were perpetrated by Great Britain at the latter end of the eighteenth century. Germany is a late comer at the banquet of Empires, and Britain—wise old Britain—has picked up a few hints on the management of men which are not understood—indeed they are despised—by German professors.

The chief result of British experience in governance is that Britain knows that enduring government is founded on friendship, not on hatred ; on respect, not on sentiment ; on personal interest, not on military compulsion. The history of Poland was an advertisement to Potsdam that Britain could never form part of the German system. It is true that, as Prince Metternich said, “ *il ne faut jamais dire, jamais,* ” but so long as the racial type of the British and Irish peoples remains true to itself the Prussian government of Yorkshire, of Tipperary, of Carnarvon, and of Perthshire is unthinkable.

Kaiser Wilhelm has been governed by an obsessive



idea. His obsession is that as the eldest son of the eldest child of Queen Victoria, the Crown of England is his *de jure*. The aim of his life is to secure the Throne of England *de facto*.

Now that the scales have fallen from the eyes of a great company of honest people who lately were pro-Germans (and may be pro-Germans again when the Potsdam gang is smashed), the meaning of the Kaiser's phrase, "our future is on the water" (on opening the new port of Stettin, September 23rd, 1890), is as plain as a pikestaff to all who have eyes to see.

"I will never rest until I have raised my Navy to a position similar to that occupied by my Army."

And again :

"What my grandfather did for his land Army, that will I do for my Navy in the same manner, and I will, without faltering, continue and carry through the work of re-organisation, so that it, too, may be able to stand with equal authority at the side of my combative forces on land, and that by its means the German Empire may be in a position to win abroad a place it has never yet attained."

And again :

"May the activity of the Navy League and its members contribute more and more to imbue the German people with the conviction that a powerful

development of our naval forces is necessary, and that a great fleet is one of the most essential conditions of the maintenance of the grandeur of the Empire and the consideration in which it is held, as well as the prosperous development of our economic interests."

And again :

"As I look upon myself as an instrument of the Lord, I am indifferent to the point of view of the present day. I pursue my own way, devoted to the prosperity and pacific development of the country."

Anyone from whose eyes the scales have fallen understands how to translate these phrases. To be crowned in Westminster Abbey and to occupy Windsor Castle as one of the country houses of the head of the Holy German Empire, it is necessary to bring England on her knee, to loose a licentious and brutal soldiery in Oxford Street and Mayfair, and to ravish and to rob the great English, Scottish, and Irish cities as the Huns have ravished and robbed the haunts of ancient peace in the Low Countries.

Were Germany ever in a position to dictate a treaty of peace at Windsor, the covetousness which is born of the worship of material comfort would find expression by the transfer to the German flag of those temperate portions of the earth's surface which England obtained in the course of her eighty

years' start in the race for Empire. The cession of the Fleet, and the payment of a cash indemnity amounting to at least £1,000,000,000 sterling, would be natural stipulations that suggest the existence of method in the Emperor's madness.

English policy would be compulsorily conformed to German policy by the presence of an overwhelming garrison in Britain, and by the denial of the right to maintain a standing army, based on the ground that the British, notwithstanding their two thousand four hundred engagements by land and sea, are a non-military people. Compulsory service would be set up, not on Earl Roberts' plan of defending the country, but as the conscript appendage of the master of the world. Young England, young Scotland, young Ireland, and young Wales will be made to join the colours, but they will not be allowed to serve in their own country. The London conscript will find himself in Pomerania ; the Scotsman in Hanover or Westphalia ; the Irishman may receive special favour, and to some Irish regiments may be confided the duty of keeping London in order. The new Welsh Army which is being formed will be detailed for duty at places like Zabern, or on the Russian frontier, or in such places as were described by the late ex-Lieutenant Bilse in his book, *Life in a Garrison Town*.

The fact that I wrote a preface to that book increased the disfavour with which I was regarded by the men who surround the Kaiser.



When a German garrison and soldiers of a sovereign of unsound mind occupy these islands, our population would not be starved. It would be in German interests to keep the population of these islands alive in order that they might labour under the sun and pay tribute to our masters at Berlin as subject nations paid tribute to ancient Rome. There was a time when blue-eyed English children were sold as slaves in the marts of the Eternal City. The slavery of those children was not more absolute than the slavery to which the men, women, and children of Old England will be subjected in the event of the Hun hoisting the flag of the double-headed vulture over Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London.

In the opinion of commercial students of German policy, the great shipping, industrial, and mercantile interests of Britain would be placed under the control of a German director of British industries. The Throne of England, if the Hanoverian dynasty is maintained, would probably be given to the Duke of Cumberland who is at present our enemy. He might have a seat in the German Federal Council like the vassal kings of Saxony, Bavaria, and Würtemberg.

The Hohenzollern conception of war is never to make war without certainty of winning, always to make war for a profit, and never to allow humanity to interfere with the crushing of enemies by force and fraud.

Normal persons are sometimes haunted by an

idea that clings persistently to the mind. As a rule the normal person refuses to be obsessed with one idea, and the idea vanishes. When mental instability has deprived abnormal persons of the power of steerage and control, they cannot shake off the morbid idea. It dogs their footsteps until the intellect is perverted by the loss of the sense of perspective and by over-activity of the emotional centres. The dominant morbid idea of the Emperor Wilhelm is that he is the vicegerent of God sent into the world for the purpose of destroying England and the English.

## CHAPTER XII

### THE KAISER AND THE MAN IN THE STREET

UNINTELLIGENT public opinion, in foreign affairs, has been expressed for a century past, as a rule, by the utterance of a simple desire to be let alone. With eighty years' start in the race for Empire all the best claims in temperate climates had been pegged out—not for Britain but for any of the British who chose to cross the sea and to try their fortunes under a new heaven and on a new earth. The German philosophers have made the tremendous mistake of thinking that the Empire beyond seas has been pegged out for England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. As a matter of fact the German has as much right to settle anywhere in the British Empire as the Englishman.

No British Government opened a capital account with the Colonies, charging on the debit side the cost of acquisition, development, and defence of the colonial territory and crediting the trade developed between the mother country and the daughter state. The Colonies were developed as the sea has been held, not for England but for humanity,



including the Prussians. Three million square miles of Australia were handed over to the descendants of the first white settlers. When responsible government was set up in Western Australia an attempt was made by a few Englishmen (*quorum pars parva fui*) to earmark a small fraction of the soil as a British possession and to form homesteads for British and Irish workers which they could claim as a matter of right. The attempt failed. The soil of Australia was handed over to numerous Australian Governments, a proceeding which excited absolute derision in Berlin. But was it foolish ? The *Emden* was destroyed by an Australian cruiser. The Kaiser is wiser now.

The treatment of Australia and New Zealand by Great Britain may have had its defects. One thing, however, is certain. The freedom under which the Australians have developed has made a powerful and probably a permanent alliance between the Australian and the British nations.

After the great Boer War it was intended, stipulated, and desired that a sum of £30,000,000 should be repaid to the British Exchequer by the great cosmopolitan gold interests in the Transvaal. Nothing was repaid ; not a penny. And again the men round the Kaiser were filled with contempt for our British policy. Were we idiots ? South Africa has taken its place as a free nation in the Great Alliance which is known as the British Empire. The rebellion which Germany fostered has died down amid the laughter and contempt of the

South African Union. Within six years of the close of the Boer War the Orange Free State, which had been seething with discontent, settled down and became a contented and satisfied member of a unified Imperial system. The *Pickelhaube* has no attractions for the slim Dutch Boer. They prefer the Roinek.

Berlin was and is unable to understand the success of British policy in India, in Australia, in Canada, in New Zealand, and in South Africa. The German Kaiser said to me that his leisure moments were few and that his favourite recreation was the study of history. "Nowhere," he added, "in the history of the world has there ever been such a contrast between the enormous opportunities and possibilities at the disposal of British Ministers and their incapacity to realise the potential wealth that lay ready to their hands." The Germans could not believe that the English could give to the Mahomedan or to the Hindu or to their kin beyond sea anything which the Germans could not give far better.

The man in the street never tugs at the reins of the Government, even when he thinks that the horses are running away. He grumbles, but he does not interfere. It is not his job to interfere, whatever happens. Somebody else is paid for the job of Government. Though the amateur has been supreme in Parliament Britain has muddled through for the last few hundred years without serious disaster. The man in the street expected to

muddle through always. Perhaps there is something to be said for muddling through.

The view taken by the Man in the Street of the personality of the Kaiser is an interesting study. He was languidly amused by the German Kaiser. What does the Man in the Street, on the bus-top, in the train, in the underground—what does he think of the Kaiser ? The question is worth consideration ; for if the populace be not the nation's brain nor its eyes nor voice, it is, after all, its body, does its needful work, performs its vital functions—breathing, digesting, blood-pumping ; and if it does not spend much time in thinking, when it does think it thinks practically.

On this question, broadly speaking, there are two bodies of opinion in the street corresponding to two bodies of men—those who call Wilhelm of Prussia the “ Kaiser ” and those who call him “ the Kayser.” On the principle that the last shall be first, let us begin by considering the “ Kayser ” crowd, whom we may call “ The Man in the Street ” to distinguish him from the other school, whom we may call the “ Other Man in the Street.”

The opinion of the Man in the Street on the “ Kayser ” before the outbreak of war and his opinion to-day show no little divergence. In those days “ before the war ”—which we—all of us, shall henceforth know only as a past age, as a page that is turned—in those far-off days, “ The Man in the Street ” thought lightly and seldom of the Kaiser. The War Lord's turgid utterances, his references



to the "Mailed Fist," and a "Place in the Sun," his hardly veiled threats, all that slow-rising menace that has been creeping up year by year to darken the sky of Europe for two decades, did not impress the "Man in the Street." "We thought it was mostly always all swank," said a supporter of the Independent Labour Party lately, "but we don't think so now."

It must not be forgotten that certain weekly papers, which provide almost their sole reading to a large proportion of the "Men in the Street," have for years past fostered this "swank" theory. They sneered at the late Lord Roberts and at the other great military authorities who warned the public that the danger was real; they ridiculed the few writers and politicians who dared to tell the truth; and on every platform speakers of their complexion have laughed loud over the "German Bogey." To-day the same persons and the same papers are chanting together *Nunc Dimittis* in another key. With them the "Man in the Street," their dupe, has also changed his tune. "Of course, we can see the Kayser is a great organiser," said the builder's foreman. "But if you ask me what I think, well, we most of us think 'e's off his dot!" And that disposed of His Imperial Majesty as far as my friend the foreman was concerned.

The "Man in the Street" has been misled and is beginning to find it out. Politicians find it easy to fool the "Man in the Street"; but when he sees that he has been fooled let politicians beware! On

the bus-top, in the halfpenny tram, or in the third-class smoking carriage, you may hear to-day the first low growl of what ere long may become the roar of a multitude. We are told "to sleep easy in our beds and never mind the German Bogey ; and now 'ere it comes out they've knowed all along this war was coming and never got nothing ready !" Crowds begin to realise that "There's going to be somebody hung over this afore we've done, I tell you that !" So, not a week ago, said a man in a bus.

The "Man in the Street" is rousing himself ; and when he wakes there will be trouble for some that now sit in high places. The "Other Man in the Street" is, of course, burdened with some degree of education, of which he is acutely conscious. In pre-war days he had read a good deal and talked a good deal more about the Kaiser. He had perhaps discussed him with the German manager or the German secretary, who probably called himself a Socialist in Germany, and voted Tory here. This efficient Teuton, of course, assured the "Other Man" that Germany would never go to war with England ; but perhaps omitted to mention that he himself was a minor agent of the German Secret Service and that he kept a rifle and a hundred rounds of ammunition in his bedroom or had a flashlight or a "wireless" in his attic.

In those old days before the war, had you asked the "Other Man" what he thought of the Kaiser, he would not in so many words have told you that Wilhelm was a self-advertising poseur, an ultra-

egotist, a bumptious autocrat, an arrogant megalomaniac playing at absolutism, though that is what he probably thought. This "Other Man" would have summed it all up in one terse English phrase—"Swelled Head." So much for Imperial Wilhelm. Yet the "Other Man" would not have been altogether blind to the real menace behind so much Prussian bombast.

In the train, in the underground tubes, the "Other Man" reads his daily paper; and his opinions have not undergone the same change as those of his fellow "Man in the Street." But had you asked him in those days his candid opinion of the Kaiser's intentions, he would probably have told you that likely enough the Kaiser might mean to attack us if he got the chance; but meanwhile we had a strong Navy and Army big enough to defend our shores with the help of a lot of Territorials whom, as he himself was one, nobody, not even the Kaiser, could afford to despise. There might be something in what Lord Roberts said; but, of course, soldiers always talked as if war was coming. It was their business. There might be war some day; but "some day" was a long way off; and anyhow it was not the "Other Man's" business. His business was to balance the ledger or to see that the petty cash was all right, or to sell that line of old goods as the latest fashion and get his bonus; anyway to keep on the right side of the German manager of the English business.

The Englishman's "whole duty of man" is to



mind his own business. He is slow to recognise that the affairs of the nation are his affairs. He prefers to leave that to the politicians, to vote when an election comes, and meanwhile to be allowed to attend to his own affairs without interference. So for him the War Lord and the Prussian Menace were not his concern—before the war.

Now, when "the Day" has come upon him like a thief in the night, he knows that the Great War is his business. He is making it his business in the ranks of the Territorials or of the New Army, and means to see the business through, as the Kaiser will, in the fullness of time, learn to his cost.

To-day the "Other Man" "knew all along it was coming some day," and that the Kaiser meant to ruin England. "Some day" was not so far off as he thought. He knows now that the trustees of the nation were in a position of great difficulty. "It's all this Party Government," said the secretary newly promoted to the vacant place of the efficient Teuton. "It's about time that we finished with it. We don't want one Party in the pocket of the Germans and the other in the hands of the Jews. We want a business Government that will look after the needs of the nation." And he, too, demands a reckoning—"What I want to know is, why this Government did nothing?" And when the piper calls for his pay the "Other Man" will join with the "Man in the Street" in the day of decision. Consequently their opinion of the Kaiser seems of less moment to-day than their opinion of the

Kaiser's friends and of our enemies still in our midst.

The authenticated cases of Prussian cruelty and brutality in the field have been brought home to hundreds of thousands of British families. The opinion of the "Man in the Street" is now formed. "Down and out" is the formula which he applies to the Hohenzollern and his system.

## CHAPTER XIII

### THE KAISER AND HIS FLEET

“Imperial power means sea-power, and sea-power and imperial power are dependent upon each other.”—KAISER WILHELM II.

I HAVE often wondered whether the Kaiser, after all, is not a genius. His share in the creation of the German Fleet is such that, had he done nothing else than support von Tirpitz, it would be impossible to deny to him the possession of invincible will-power, of a clear conception of means to ends, and of an infinite capacity for taking pains. The German Fleet is in a very special degree the Kaiser's tool. Every officer and every man looks to Kaiser Wilhelm as War Lord and Master. There is no Saxon fleet, no Württemberg fleet, no Bavarian fleet—only the Kaiser's fleet.

The Fleet, unlike the Army, can be unleashed at the throat of any personal enemy of the Kaiser. Being the actual as well as the titular head of his Navy, he has no one to consult. From the bulk-head of the Kaiser's cabin in his flagship I copied the following motto inscribed over his desk :

“ I PREFER PRAISE FROM NONE IF I ONLY DO AS MY CONSCIENCE TELLS ME AND IF I FULFIL THE ORDERS ENTRUSTED TO ME AS I OUGHT TO DO.”

ADMIRAL DE REUTER.



De Reuter was sane. But when a man appoints himself to be Admiral of the Atlantic before he has won a battle, and claims the prestige of divinity, de Reuter's words are meaningless.

The Kaiser's interest in his Fleet has been and is phenomenal. When he is afloat a plate full of sailor's soup or rations is carried to him at midday, where he "proves it" in no perfunctory manner. He does something more than sip or taste the viands served out to the crew. In coaling averages he is intensely anxious to equal or to exceed the standard of excellence attained by the crack ships of the Royal Navy. Prince Henry of Prussia told me that his brother had given him special instructions on this point. With German thoroughness the coaling averages up to the outbreak of war were gradually raised till there was little to choose between the efficiency of the British and the German fleets.

Of gunnery efficiency it is difficult to speak, because little is accurately known even in our Navy about German gunnery practice. Judging from the actions which have taken place since the war began, British gunnery has done more than hold its own, but the greatest efforts have been made to instil into the minds of German officers and men that victory on the great day will belong to the Power that has had the best men behind the best guns.

Some of the methods used to create a maritime feeling in landsmen-sailors of the Imperial fleet

border upon the ridiculous. The German Fleet having no history, it has been necessary to create history. For that purpose placards are hung in the casemates and on the bulkheads of German battleships which are inscribed "VATERLANDISCHER BEDENKENTAGEN"—literally "Fatherlandish think-days." Some of the items on this list are trivial records of the birth of a forgotten princeling, or of the feats of small craft at Emden, or of the records of the Hanseatic League, which had little more relation to Prussia than to Poland. Still, there is no denying that the Kaiser's personality has heavily dented the personnel of the fleet.

Enthusiasm for the Kaiser's person and hatred of the English are factors in German naval efficiency which exist in about equal strength. The insolence of the German warships when in British waters has long been the subject of unfavourable observation. During the Naval Review at Spithead on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, operations were delayed and partly upset by the insolent presumption of a German torpedo boat scorching down the line in the fairway in defiance of the regulations laid down for the conduct of foreign ships of war. Tens of thousands of eye-witnesses will bear me out in my statement of the truth of this fact.

During gunnery practice off the Bass Rock a German cruiser on one occasion steamed into the middle of the British Fleet, thus causing a cessation of firing. Our Admiral was obliged to

intimate to the captain of the German cruiser that his presence was undesired and inconvenient, before firing could be resumed. When the German Fleet visited Plymouth and the Irish ports surveys were made and soundings were taken by German officers in defiance of the unwritten law that governs the conduct of a fleet visiting the ports of a friendly Power.

When the Admiralty finally resolved to make Scapa Flow a base for the Fleet, the Hydrographer of the Royal Navy was instructed to procure the chart of the locality. The official was absent for some time from the Board Room of the Admiralty, and at last a messenger was sent to hasten his movements. The officer returned with the statement that no English chart was in existence, but that the Germans had already charted Scapa Flow and the Orkneys with a thoroughness that revealed intelligent anticipation of events that materialised in nineteen hundred and fourteen. These instances of Prussian methods could not have taken place had not Prussian officers known that the Kaiser desired them to exhibit Prussian insolence towards the English whenever opportunity arose.

Another incident which deserves to be known wherever the English language is spoken and wherever the German language at last begins to be forgotten must be told. When the survivors of the *Mainz* were taken on board H.M.S. *Lowestoft*, Lieutenant von Tirpitz, the son of the man who made the German Navy, with the support of the



Kaiser, was courteously conducted to one of the lieutenants' cabins. The owner of the cabin, on visiting his involuntary guest, expressed his regret at the fortune of war; said he would do what he could to make him comfortable and "would Herr von Tirpitz have a whisky and soda?" The proud response of the bureaucrat's son was to spit in the face of the English lieutenant. The Englishman kept his temper, wiped his face, left the cabin, and reported the incident to his captain. Young Tirpitz was promptly put in irons and consigned to the ship's cell. He would have been shot had the incident occurred in Germany, and if the delinquent had been British and not German.

This disgusting habit of German officers, naval and military, is so frequently displayed that the effect of the Kaiser's teaching and of the Kaiser's unbalanced and evil mind can be traced through the misconduct and bad manners of his young officers, including his eldest son. One can only reflect: "They know not what they do."

The manner in which I came into direct contact with the German Navy is related in another chapter. It may, however, be interesting to explain why my interest in the feeding of the Royal Navy enabled me to discover the inveterate envy and hostility of the Kaiser towards England.

During the Boer War, when the silent service of the British Navy played so great a part in our international relations, grave discontent was rife in the Royal Fleet with regard to the then existing

system of food supply and service. Some of the discontent was unwarranted. But discontent was partially justified.

A Service yarn tells of a petty officer R.N. who was asked whether the quantity of the provisions served out to the crew was what was complained of. "No, sir, there is enough of it, such as it is." His questioner, thinking that he had got hold of the real grievance, said: "It is the quality then that is complained of?" "No, sir," he said, "it is good enough, what there is of it."

A Committee had been appointed, under the Presidency of Vice-Admiral Ernest Rice, for the purpose of investigating the grievance about lower-deck rations which had accumulated for many years. The British Admiralty adopted the recommendations of the Committee, but the Treasury, not perceiving the importance of good cooking for the Fleet, ignored the decision of the Admiralty.

These events attracted the close attention of the German Admiralty, and made it easy for me to establish relations with the head of the German Fleet, on the plea that the efficiency of German victualling was too admirable to be ignored by any friend of the Royal Navy.

The grievance in the Royal Navy in 1902 on the subject of food was undoubted. The canteen system was faulty. The British bluejacket deserved better rations. If he was to get them, the simplest way seemed to be to impress public opinion with the excellent manner in which the German bluejackets

were fed. At that time Boer burghers, who were fighting against us, were being set up anew in their farms at the cost of British taxpayers. Farms were not burnt down by English troops. Enemies' wives and families were fed on the fat of the land, prisoners were pardoned, soldiers received an increase of pay, workhouse and infirmary patients and paupers on the D.2 diet were better fed than they were ever fed before. Only the British blue-jacket was left to munch the dry remainder biscuit.

The German bluejacket was catered for on efficient and scientific cookery principles. The subject of good food and good cookery is shirked by most people ; why, I cannot understand. The Englishman works better and fights better on a full stomach. Waterloo was won by men who had eaten well and drunk well on a day when Napoleon's tired troops were famished. If one speaks of good cookery with concern, one is often looked on as a sensualist ; or, if one advocates the good feeding of soldiers and sailors, one is charged with being a demagogue, playing into the hands of " sea lawyers." Still the real opinions felt on the subject of good food are shown by the money spent on their table by men of wealth and high political position on both sides in politics. Good food is not rich food or expensive food. Good food is well-cooked food of pure and fresh materials. Asparagus from Argenteuil, canvas back duck from the Chesapeake, sterlet, caviare from the Volga, a prime cut of Scotch beef, a " creation " of the late lamented Frederick of the Tour d'Argent



on the Quai de la Tourelle, who has handed down to posterity many a distinguished member of British Society, are points that interest healthy Britons on shore. Food, like sex, is always interesting—after a fast.

The question of food in the Navy and Army where hard exercise and vigorous digestions are the rule means to the average bluejacket, stoker, and marine a great deal more than the well-to-do five-meal-meat-fed men of the comfortable classes imagine. Germany understood this fact, and the German Emperor, above all men, appreciates the strategical value of supplying fighting men with well-cooked food. Life on board a destroyer is intolerable in bad weather. Life on board a battleship with the iron discipline essential where 830 men, or over 900 in the case of a flagship, are pent up within a small space is hard to bear.

The pleasures of existence being few, the chief of them is the consciousness of good work well done. Another is health—the product of hard work and fresh air. Another is food, which in the German Navy, perhaps even more than in the Royal Navy, occupies more of a man's thoughts at sea than on shore.

At the time I visited the German Navy to investigate the subject of naval rations Prince Henry of Prussia had recently completed the visit of his squadron to Bantry Bay, Lough Swilly, and Dublin. German naval officers of high rank put themselves to great trouble to enable me to understand the

working system of German naval rations. Obedience to the Emperor's instructions accounted for information with which I was supplied, but I am compelled to say that it did not explain the kindly and hospitable spirit in which I was received. The fact that German naval officers believed that they were seconding an attempt to obtain for British sailors better food, and that thereby they were doing something indirectly for the men of the Royal Navy, impressed me rightly or wrongly with the fact that they took pleasure in exhibiting respect and comradeship between the British and German navies. I may be wrong in my diagnosis, but I am compelled to record my belief that the German Navy understands the Royal Navy and the British nation a great deal better than the German General Staff of the Army or the Potsdam Intelligence Department. The kinship of the reigning Houses of Hanover and Hohenzollern twenty years ago carried much weight. The friendship of the two monarchies sealed and sanctioned the understanding that then was alleged to exist between the two Foreign Offices. It is not too much to claim that Captain von Müller of the *Emden* is much more a child of Nelson than of Von Bernhardi or Treitschke.

## CHAPTER XIV

### THE KAISER AND WOMAN

“I am thinking now of the German women and maids. . . . It is incumbent upon them to bring up a new generation of vigorous men. In our mother, our good German woman, lies a vast reserve of power that none can overcome.”

KAISER WILHELM II.

THE broad, tolerant outlook of the man who tries to view life from other people's standpoint is a faculty denied to the German Kaiser. His views about women are expressed in tabloid form by the motto: “Kinder, Kleider, Kirche, und Küche” (“children, clothes, church, and kitchen”). The question is not only what the Kaiser thinks of women, but what women, especially British women, think of the Kaiser. One is reminded of the quatrain written by Sir Frank Burnand when a brilliant member of a literary club was regaling a coterie of rapt listeners with his views on the Christian religion and its Author. Burnand had listened with growing impatience to the denunciations of a Mr. Crowe, and finally with a slight stutter produced the following verse:

“We've heard in accents highly spiced  
That Crowe does not believe in Christ;  
But what we really want to know  
Is whether Christ believes in Crowe.”



Miss Anne Topham, in her *Memories of the Kaiser's Court*, has given the impressions of the resident English teacher to the only daughter of the Emperor and Empress of Germany. The book is interesting, but it does not express the intense aversion from the Kaiser to which cultivated British women are filled by the sudden outbreak of ferocious animalism which has marked the declaration and conduct of the war between Prussia and the British Empire.

As far as I know, the "biological necessity of war" has not been treated from the scientific point of view of trained British women graduates in medicine and surgery. I have accordingly invited Dr. Agnes Savill, M.A., M.D., and Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chessser, M.B., to state in their own language the attitude of women towards the German Kaiser. Both of these ladies, as is well known, are strong supporters of women suffrage. I have also secured the assistance of an educated Englishwoman trained in the assessment of historical value who gives her views from the point of view of an anti-suffragist. The three contributions to the application of Kaiser Wilhelm's character and intellect speak for themselves, but I imagine that the mind of womanhood and girlhood of Britain is expressed in what follows. The writer of the third paper prefers to remain anonymous.

It should be added that Dr. Agnes Savill does not consider that the Emperor is insane, and that Dr. Elizabeth Sloan Chessser is of opinion that he is a paranoiac.

## “KINDER, KLEIDER, KIRCHE, UND KÜCHE”

BY ELIZABETH SLOAN CHESSER, M.B.

“Kinder, Kleider, Kirche, und Küche.” Such is the Hohenzollern view of woman’s place in the universe. It is her part in suffering to hand on the Life Torch. Her sphere is the moral and religious training of children, the home-making and nourishing of the race. And in the name of the churches that have been desecrated and the God blasphemed, in the name of the broken-hearted mothers whose sons are maimed and slaughtered and whose girl-children are violated by drunken “blonde beasts,” the motherhood of the world demands vengeance. What crimes against love and the sanctity of home have been committed by the nation whose leader appealed to women on behalf of children, homes, and churches! Motherhood has no words with which to express its hatred of a “super man” whose petty ambition and insatiable vanity have drenched Europe in blood and tears. “That woman is the noblest who has given most sons to die for the Fatherland.” A Germanic creed revolting to motherhood awakened! To bear sons who must die to minister to imperial vanity and greed of power. As free women and as mothers, we protest!

Let us mothers of every nation remember that there arose in our time William, the Modern Attila, the self-styled scourge of God. “Ye have heard in

old times it was said : 'Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth,' but I say unto you : 'Blessed are the valiant, for they shall make the earth their throne.' " Valiant ruler of a valiant soldiery, the spilt blood of the "Kinder" cries aloud for vengeance !

Women know that the victory of Prussian militarism would arrest for a generation all that is best in civilisation—liberty, citizenship, comradeship between the sexes, friendship between nations. The violation of women and the desecration of love are the inevitable consequences of the Potsdam cult of woman degraded and war as a biological necessity. It was Nietzsche, the apostle of modern Germany, who said, "Thou goest to women ? Do not forget thy whip." The woman in a Hohenzollern-Treitschkean-Nietzschean-Bernhardian scheme of things is but the vehicle of pleasure and the apparatus for the production of "super men." As if woman enslaved could be the mother of Highest Man !

There is infinite pathos in the fact that Germany with her splendid record in literature, philosophy and science should stand to-day for the most hideous code of ethics the world has ever known. The "accumulated rubbish" of 1200 years is to be cleared away and a new set of commandments given. In truth, that would surely come with the triumph of militarism and of brute force against the Christian code or "slave morality."<sup>1</sup> What is the Hohenzollern

<sup>1</sup> Nietzsche.



cult? "Necessity" knows no moral Christian law. King Herod's slaughter of the innocents was "necessary" for his peace and political safety. And so also the murder of the children in Belgium, France and England is "necessary" to Prussian advance. Justice and honour and the pledged word are to be subordinate to will and power—the will to conquer men and enslave women, the power to violate the innocent child. What shall the mothers of the Fatherland say to the new commandments of the Hohenzollern advancing in the glare of burning churches and homesteads to the sound of children crying in the night? *Cultured* human monstrosity! "Shall all the mean and creeping things find a last refuge among kings?" The greatest criminal or the greatest madman of modern times? Upon the sanity of kings and politicians, the weal or woe of the world may depend.

What is the "responsibility" of the Kaiser as representative and ruler of the German nation? Restlessness, instability, and exaltation of ideas associated with a family history and physical stigmata of degeneration suggest the possibility of insanity. Consider the Imperial phrase, "God's weapon, his sword, and his vicegerent." Exaltation of ideas and delusions of superhuman power are the premonitory symptoms of mental derangement. Does the responsibility of the European carnage rest, not with the Emperor of Germany, but with the medical men of his nation, who failed to certify as an irresponsible person, a man occupying the

position of supreme control in a Government, whose brute force policy has jeopardised the world's peace for years ? Then it would seem that a system which maintains a paranoiac in absolute power must go, and science and democracy control, in future, international diplomacy.

It has been said that women do not understand war and Foreign Policy and Public Affairs ! In truth, many of us understand them now, and with our men we are determined that no peace is possible until the menace of Prussianism, with its stupid glorification of war, is overthrown for all time. With our men we say that we must fight, whatever the suffering, until the end—until the Allies are victorious and the House of Hohenzollern is relegated to the obscurity from which it should never have been permitted to emerge. We claim, not retaliation in brutal kind against the helpless women and children of Germany, but the deliverance of that nation as of all Europe from the Hohenzollern regime. Europe freed from this nightmare of war will arise purified and revitalised. Men and women together will build out of the debris a new social structure, safeguarded against the menace of war and of brute force in the future. This we claim on behalf of the children of the race !

#### THE PRUSSIAN IDEAL AND THE PLACE OF THE WEAK

BY DR. AGNES SAVILL, M.A., M.D.

World power or downfall ! To satiate the demand of Prussian militarism the life of the best is being

shed throughout Europe. The leading spirits of Prussian Militarism tell us that war, with its toll of pain, of death, and of horrors worse than death, cannot be held of serious account by the far-seeing, who recognise that through such travail comes the birth of a great nation. We British have been proud to hold justice and freedom as ends for which war is resorted to only as an unavoidable means ; militarism believes that war, as war, is a goal worthy the best energies of a people.

Women ask, what effect has such an idea on the life of a community ? Are its units nobler, its institutions grander ? Will the success and world-empire of such a nation lead to the progress and elevation of humanity ? Women believe the effect to be a retrogressive step in the evolution of humanity from the beast. Were every nation governed by such an ideal, civilisation would be doomed. With the worship of material strength comes the neglect and decay of the distinctly human qualities—tenderness for the weak and the unfortunate, chivalry and self-denial. Where the rights of the strong are all-important there develops contempt for those who cannot achieve by physical force. In a community where might is right there can be no place for woman as an individual ; she can at best serve but to minister to the comfort of man and to perpetuate the race. On the other hand, history shows that for the production of a noble manhood, a noble womanhood is necessary. Where woman is on principle confined to an inferior rôle,



the duties and privileges of motherhood conferred on her by nature are held in light esteem. Gradually, but surely, the spiritual aspect of the relationship between man and woman is lost sight of, merged in the physical, and the steady deterioration of both man and woman inevitably follows. Where the spiritual is stifled, man descends below the brute.

Students of history recognise the importance of the "weak" as factors in the civilising of humanity. "The innocent and helpless have their permanent place no less than the self-assertive and strong."<sup>1</sup> Militarism ignores this powerful truth.

Militarism rests on a false foundation ; its logic starts from a mistaken premise—an erroneous definition of "Nature." Nature to the professors of militarism shows but a struggle for existence, in which the victory is to the strong. The Prussian study of Nature is too limited ; hence its deduction contains only a portion of the truth. When the facts of evolution were first discovered, men of science for a time saw only the survival of the fittest—"nature red in tooth and claw." Deeper observation and reflection revealed that in the evolution of humanity, qualities other than those engendered by the deadly combat for self-preservation were equally powerful factors in development, qualities mysterious in that at first they seem antagonistic to success, qualities not to be weighed by any material standard—compassion, justice, reverence, love of truth and of goodness, pursuit of the inexplicable

<sup>1</sup> Sir Henry Jones, *The Individual and the Moral Life*.

æsthetic emotions aroused by beauty of form and sound. Such qualities appeared and expanded without, at first, the conscious co-operation of man's reason ; they sprang up in all communities ; their forms indeed varied in different ages and climes ; but they resisted all attempt at suppression. Throughout the centuries history shows man striving after the ideals which bear no relation to self-preservation—nay, to gain them, man has willingly sacrificed all and laid down life itself. Whither the altruistic impulses are leading mankind we cannot see ; but we recognise that they are sought after with great zeal, that as much eagerness and irresistible longing is displayed in their pursuit as is ever evinced in the search after the satisfaction of the physical needs.

Further, it is seen that the more highly civilised a nation becomes, the greater is the manifestation of the altruistic virtues. The virtues associated with the satisfaction of personal needs, the valour and strength required for self-preservation, become less esteemed than the altruistic virtues necessary for the preservation of society. No matter how vigorously man may endeavour to lead his life as an animal, he is sooner or later irresistibly compelled by forces of the spirit, by the very essence of his human nature, to seek after a higher than the satisfaction of the moment. Few pass through life without learning—often after bitter experience—the strange truth that he who seeks only to gain, will lose, that he who follows the unselfish path

realises, thereby, gain not only to the community, but also, paradoxically, to himself. The Prussian ideal, ignoring these deeper facts of evolution, travels against the tide of nature. For a time its material gains may yield it a seeming victory, but its very blossom contains the seeds of death. The lust for possession and conquest, in the history of an individual and of a nation, ends in frustration.

### THE KAISER AND WOMAN

BY AN ENGLISHWOMAN.

Far-sightedness is one element of greatness. The power of rightly interpreting a great world-movement is a sign of strength in a ruler. In nothing has the Kaiser shown more miscalculation and littleness than in his treatment, or non-treatment, of the woman question. In the Kaiser's scheme of things the intelligent woman, as comrade of man, has no place. Kaiser Wilhelm's warped judgment and unbalanced mind have caused him to misread the signs of the times.

During the last fifty years a great movement has swept through the civilised world calling for reconsideration of woman's position and functions in the scheme of civilised society. The higher education of women struck the death-knell of the reign of woman as a chattel. Except in the Kaiser's kingdom woman now takes her stand as man's equal in some spheres of life, and as an able second in others. There are few branches of English, and



still more of American national life, which woman has not now entered as the equal, competitor, or helpmeet of man. Art, letters, medicine, journalism, sport, music—to name a few spheres of activity in which woman has now established her place.

Turning more especially to our own country, the fact of the comparatively recent education of women, together with the influence left by the repression and narrow sphere of woman's life in the Victorian Age, has caused the inevitable swing-back of the pendulum. This culminated in a feverish wave of agitation and man-hatred from a section of the community who demand complete equality with man in all branches of life, and in some cases assert their superiority over the stronger sex. The words "superiority" and "inferiority" of woman over man or of man over woman are on the lips of thousands. The phrase is a fallacious misuse of words. Where there are two separate and distinct entities both possessing common qualities but each having qualities peculiarly their own, there can be no question of "superiority" or "inferiority." After this war values will be changed; the sure foundation will remain; the froth be swept away, and the path cleared for a saner and sounder relation between men and women and between women and the State.

This great Woman's Movement has been recognised, though in some cases resented, by the majority of the nations. To her younger women Russia in great part owes her regeneration. The

influence of women in Russia, France, Scandinavia, America, and the British Empire is an ever-increasing factor in national life. Nevertheless, in spite of woman's value as the intellectual helpmeet of man and as a power in the State with a voice in matters of our social system which nearly affect women, woman's great hold on and influence over the nation, especially at a time like the present, is in her womanliness—in her power to hold and to exert her womanly qualities and compel, not earn, the respect of man.

What is the Kaiser's attitude towards woman to-day ? What is the attitude of his Prussian Military system ? He has deliberately refused to read the writing on the wall. He has set his face against the recognition of woman's claim to be something more than a household drudge and a pretty doll for man's amusement. The doctrine of woman as man's inferior—as a chattel—is nurtured and cherished in the Fatherland.

Germany is ruled with an iron rod by the Kaiser and his Potsdam gang. He who is called the "All Highest" dominates the national life. He has steeped his country in the doctrines of the insane philosopher Nietzsche who said of woman : "If you are going to see a woman take a whip with you." "Woman is crafty, cunning, and a liar. She must always have a master," proclaimed Schopenhauer. The Hohenzollern declares that woman's activities must be confined to children, church, cooking, and clothes.



The effect of this and similar teaching drilled into the minds of Prussian men and women for a generation is that the position and life of German women is narrower, more cramped, more helpless than in any other country in Europe. The crushing and annihilation of Kaiserism is the only guarantee for the preservation of woman's position and individuality.

The world has already had a taste of Prussian chivalry and Prussian Kultur. When the full story of that Kultur is brought home to the women of our Empire they will take their full share in crushing for ever the author of such a system. Headed by the heir to the Prussian throne Europe has had an object lesson in the results of the Kaiser's opinions and teachings on the treatment of women. To all who have eyes to see it is plain that there exists among the women of the Empire a deep-rooted and ever-growing hatred for the Kaiser and for Kaiserism. This hatred is well founded. Prussia is responsible for the vilest acts of barbarism, treachery, and outrage that the modern civilised world has ever seen. The Kaiser, aided by the military caste and by the teachings of the national philosophers, is directly responsible for that conduct in the eyes of the women of Great Britain.

When the Imperial edict went forth that a man must be ready to kill his own mother, to shoot down defenceless women and children and other non-combatants, to burn and destroy wherever he had the opportunity, at the bidding of the head of the



State, women recognised in the Kaiser the deadly foe of humanity, of civilisation, of chivalry, and of the qualities which raise man above the savage beast. Women hold in contempt the man who trades on their weakness and defencelessness to gain his own selfish ends and to boast to the world of his superiority over all he meets.

The Kaiser, as is being shown daily in this conflict, stands for the annihilation of all that womanhood holds most sacred. The dominant factor in German national life is the doctrine of conformity to type and of the suppression of the individual in the State. The very education of the German girl, excellent as it is in more ways than one, while guaranteed to produce an all-round level of the knowledge of facts, is based on the system of drilling in knowledge from a child's earliest years until its "education" is considered finished, without first drawing out the child's personality. The rigidity of the Prussian system and the necessity for reaching a certain standard at a certain age (it being a disgrace on the parents if this standard is not reached), while creating an efficient machine, crushes the natural tenderness out of the German girl. While "Schwermerei" is the breath of her existence, she is taught that she is and must ever be an inferior being, ready to be treated with bullying contempt by her lord and master should that suit his mood. So far from objecting to her treatment at the hands of her master, the German woman, by her education, accepts it cheerfully and does not realise the

possibility of anything different. The Prussian is therefore to a great extent what the woman makes him.

Again, the women of the Empire realise that the Kaiser stands for the doctrine of might as the supreme arbiter, and of war as a consummation devoutly to be wished—an end in itself. Think of the effect of that principle on the national outlook.

“I am thinking now of the German women and maids. When I was on the battlefield of Vionville I thought of how nobly they gave their sons, their husbands, and their lovers to assist in the work of regaining for us the Empire. It is incumbent upon them to bring up a new generation of vigorous men.

KAISER WILHELM II.”

That is the Kaiser's view—that women are to give their lives “to bring up a new generation of vigorous men.” Why? That they may sate the ambition of a war-loving monarch, that nursed by the tender care of their womankind they may grow to man's estate and at the Kaiser's behest wage war like savages, pillage, murder, desecrate, outrage, burn, so that in one short month they gain for themselves the hatred of the civilised world.

Kaiser Wilhelm is woman's deadly foe. The brutal conduct of his army in France and Belgium, the insults to women, the murder of children, the ruthless violation of the home have branded the Kaiser and his system with their true mark. It is

said that the Kaiser habitually speaks to and of women with a half-veiled sneer, while in some cases as a creature to be humoured lest she prove dangerous, at all times as an inferior being. It is unintelligible to His Majesty that woman has her place in the national life where, while maintaining her womanly qualities, she may work as man's comrade and take an intelligent interest in the affairs of her country.

Respect where respect is due, chivalry, courtesy, deference to the women of his Kingdom—these qualities are lacking in the Hohenzollern, and therein lies the root of woman's quarrel with the Kaiser. To avenge the wrongs of the women of Belgium is not the least part of England's task. It has been finely said : “ The age of chivalry is never dead in England so long as there remains a wrong to be righted and so long as Englishmen have faith that they have power to right that wrong.”



## CHAPTER XV

### OUT OF EVIL COMETH GOOD

FOR twelve years the German Emperor has been the secret and efficient enemy of the British. Unconscious allies of Germany on British soil have aided him in his criminal design. Even the greatest Government authority on German philosophy and on German national life—Viscount Haldane—realised from the outset that no nation in arms recruited on a voluntary basis can be trained for war during peace. On March 4th, 1907, a critical year in our relations with Germany—the year when forty British Editors and publicists were the guests of the German General Staff, as flies are guests of spiders—Mr. (now Viscount) Haldane made it clear “that under the voluntary system the required amount of training could never be given in time of peace.” Three things were wanted for the training of the rank and file : (1) discipline ; (2) drill ; (3) musketry or gunnery.

England refused to learn the lesson until the German paranoiac taught us that Viscount Haldane was both right and wrong.

Earl Roberts, who has gone to his rest, left us a

legacy which may be condensed into the words "Never Again." The world as we know it is about to be broken up. The problems that have puzzled Europe for centuries, even for two score centuries, are about to be settled. The oldest problem of all is the Jewish question. It will be settled after the war. In the interests of the peace of the world, Palestine will be held by a small neutral Power—not by England, or France, or Russia, or Germany. That neutral Power should come into existence by the restoration of the Hebrews to their own land. Prophecy, however incredible it may seem, is being fulfilled. The ancient Jewish prophecies are too numerous to quote. But readers who are interested in the restoration of the Jews to their own land I would refer to Psalm cxxvi. 4 ; Jeremiah xxi. 23 ; Zephaniah iii. 20 ; Psalm liii. 6 ; Psalm cxxvi. 1 ; Jeremiah xii. 15 ; Micah ii. 12 ; Isaiah xi. 11, 12 ; Amos ix. 14 ; Acts xv. 16 ; Amos ix. 11 ; Isaiah lx. 21 ; Amos ix. 15 ; Malachi iii. 12 ; Daniel viii. 9 ; Matthew xix. 28 ; Luke xxii. 29-30. Especially to be noted is Isaiah lx. 21 : "Thy people also shall be all righteous ; they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of My planting, the work of My hands, that I may be glorified." Some of the prophecies referred to above were fulfilled at the first Restoration, 536 B.C. That Restoration was only partial and temporary. The Jews are again in dispersion. The end of the war may see the complete and lasting fulfilment of the prophecies regarding the Restoration of the Jews to their own land, and as to the

time when the Jews "would be a blessing to the world" (Deuteronomy xxxiii. 29).

The Balkan question will be settled. Hitherto Austria, Italy, and Turkey have each taken a hand in stoking the fires of religious and racial hate in the cockpit of Southern Europe. When Austria is eliminated as a world-power, owing to the treachery of the German General Staff, who have shepherded the old Emperor Francis Joseph unto destruction, Italy will have every interest in arranging a permanent settlement between the various members of the Balkan States—a settlement founded on race, religion, geography, and the rights of man.

The Irish question, which has been a thorn in the side of England for four hundred years, will be finally settled. Without a German General Staff and a megalomaniac Emperor with whom to intrigue, the Irish harbours will remain as they are at present—subject to the mistress of the seas, and Irish national life may develop as freely as the national life of a new Poland under the suzerainty of Russia.

When Alsace-Lorraine is returned to France, and Schleswig-Holstein restored to the Kingdom of Denmark, the little States of Europe will breathe freely. The interests of humanity cannot dispense with the bantam brigade of the little States.

The relations between the United States and the rest of the world will be adjusted by the definition and revision of the Monroe Doctrine. The Emperor



Wilhelm's madness has made this possible. Let us examine the effect of the Emperor Wilhelm's megalomania upon the relations of the United Kingdom with the United States of America.

The Monroe Doctrine is based on the idea that there is a natural separation between the Old World and the New.

The kernel of the policy is found in the words : " American Continents are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonisation by any European Powers."

From the date of its appearance to the present day, the doctrine has been looked upon with the approval in the States, because :

(1) It appealed to the popular imagination on account of its unusual daring ; and it made the United States a protector of liberty and supreme in the Western Hemisphere.

(2) It commended itself to the judgment of statesmen.

(3) Its reputed brilliant success in blocking the proposed intervention of the Holy Alliance in the Troubles of the New World.

(4) Its triumph when its principle was attacked by Napoleon III.

(5) On the majority of occasions, when dispute has arisen the United States has upheld the principle and been successful.

As against this there are certain weaknesses.

(1) Democratic government is becoming so universal that the objection to European interference can no longer be based on hereditary difference of political systems.

(2) In spite of the doctrine, English possessions in the Western Hemisphere are larger than in 1823, and in 1846, by the Oregon Boundary Treaty, lands claimed by America were awarded to Great Britain. Salmon will not take a fly.

(3) The Clayton Bulwer treaty with England is inconsistent with the doctrine.

America has annexed the Philippines. Captain Mahan says: "Europe, construed by the Monroe Doctrine, would include Africa, with the Levant of India. . . . It would not include Japan, China, or the Pacific."

This being accepted, what is to prevent Asiatic nations from establishing themselves in the Western Hemisphere, and, for instance, Japanese possession of Ecuador?

Owing to the difficulties of union between the United States and South America, would not a close bond between the United States and Greater Britain, or one between Spain and her former revolted colonies, be more in keeping with the tendencies of the day?

The length with which I have treated this subject is necessary owing to the paramount importance of settling for all time the relations between the British

and the American branches of the Anglo-Saxon-Celtic-Franco-Jewish races.

The Indian problem for England has been settled by the Emperor Wilhelm's crime. Ghurka, Sikh, Pathan, and Hindu regiments have died magnificently in the trenches of Flanders. Never again can white men claim inherent superiority to dark men. We gained our religion from the East. Wise old Asia has taught us much of what we know. Our inheritance of the Empire of India has been an insoluble problem until the Hohenzollern madman brought India and England together. India has suffered, bled, and sacrificed magnificently. Continuity of policy in India exists because the bureaucracy never goes out of office. Individuals change ; a government continues. Sequence of view is thus secured and alternation of parties unknown. The Government is subject to a process of incessant and minute alteration. But until the Emperor Wilhelm's madness and miscalculations drove white men and dark men to think out the conditions of existence, bureaucracy governed India.

The vast populations of India who have fought for the British Empire in Flanders and in East Africa have been accustomed to look upon the Government as the final authority exercising power for and on behalf of the British Raj.

In future the government of India will consist of representatives of the sons of India and of the sons of Britain who hold in trust the authority for governing India.



Thanks to the German Emperor we shall never see a babu government holding sway at Delhi and Colombo, and maintained in power by an immigrant army from Britain. The British and the Indians have drawn the sword together, and the sword anneals friendship—the secret of power.

When the German Crown Prince was turned out of India for misconduct when he was England's guest, he did not understand that the taxation per head in India does not exceed sixpence per annum, and that therefore the loot of India is only possible to a power that won the friendship of India. Winning the friendship of India as England has done debars the looting of India. Rent for cottages in India is almost unknown. The masses of the population live as owners or occupants on their own lands.

The Emperor Wilhelm, a megalomaniac without the ability of Nero, without the continuity of purpose of Frederick the Great, without the concentration of Charles I, or the energy of Peter the Cruel has mastered none of these facts. His Intelligence Department has misled him and betrayed him. India is England's best friend. Can there be any more cogent demonstration of the incompetence of the Potsdam gang, and of the insanity of their nominal chief than their error in regard to the Indian factor in the world war?

Britain beyond seas has her own problems. They need no comment. There is something in the atmosphere in which our kin beyond sea live, move,

and have their being which gives them energy beyond English energy. They are marvellous. The *Emden* was destroyed by an Australian cruiser. The Emperor Wilhelm has welded for Great Britain an alliance with Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa. No Acts of Parliament could have done it. No debates, no newspaper articles, no platform speeches, no circulars, no organised patriotic associations could have tackled the problem. The Emperor Wilhelm's madness has done for us British what we could never have done for ourselves. Therefore my last line is my first : Wise old Asia has always looked on lunatics with wonder, reverence, and compassion. The object of this book is to show that Kaiser Wilhelm is of unsound mind, and therefore that no man on earth shall ever again be trusted with the power of peace and war.